SATURDAY
November 22, 2025

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ਹਿੰਦ ਦੀ ਚਾਦਰ
ਸ੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਤੇਗ ਬਹਾਦਰ ਜੀ
1675 - 2025

350TH MARTYRDOM DAY

dedicated to

Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji

Bhai Mati Das Ji,
Bhai Sati Das Ji,
Bhai Dayala Ji

GOVT. OF PUNJAB

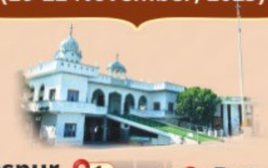
DETAILS OF NAGAR KIRTAN AND SAMAGAMS

Srinagar to Sri Anandpur Sahib
(19-22 November, 2025)

Srinagar 1
Jammu 2
Pathankot 3
Dasuya 4
Hoshiarpur 5
Mahilpur 6
Garhshankar 7
Sri Anandpur Sahib 8

Halt
Day 1: Jammu (19 November, 2025)
Day 2: Pathankot (20 November, 2025)
Day 3: Hoshiarpur (21 November, 2025)

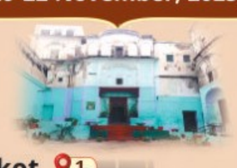
Gurdaspur to Sri Anandpur Sahib
(20-22 November, 2025)



Gurdaspur 1
Batala 2
Baba Bakala Sahib 3
Sri Amritsar Sahib 4
Tarn Taran 5
Goindwal Sahib 6
Kapurthala 7
Kartarpur 8
Jalandhar 9
Phagwara 10
Banga 11
Nawanshahr 12
Balachaur 13
Sri Anandpur Sahib 14

Halt
Day 1: Sri Amritsar Sahib (20 November, 2025)
Day 2: Jalandhar (21 November, 2025)

Faridkot to Sri Anandpur Sahib
(20-22 November, 2025)



Faridkot 1
Ferozepur 2
Moga 3
Jagraon 4
Ludhiana 5
Khanna 6
Sirhind 7
Fatehgarh Sahib 8
Morinda 9
Chamkaur Sahib 10
Rupnagar 11
Sri Anandpur Sahib 12

Halt
Day 1: Ludhiana (20 November, 2025)
Day 2: Fatehgarh Sahib (21 November, 2025)

Gurdwara Ber Sahib (Chhavni Budha Dal) Talwandi Sabo to Sri Anandpur Sahib
(20-22 November, 2025)

Gurdwara Ber Sahib (Chhavni Budha Dal) Talwandi Sabo 1
Bathinda 2
Barnala 3
Sangrur 4
Patiala 5
Rajpura 6
Banur 7
Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar 8
Kurali 9
Rupnagar 10
Sri Anandpur Sahib 11

Halt
Day 1: Sangrur (20 November, 2025)
Day 2: Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar (21 November, 2025)

1092/18/2025-26/5248

Samagams at Sri Anandpur Sahib

23rd November 2025

Commencement of Sri Akhand Path Sahib

Inauguration of Exhibition based on the life of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji

Sarv Dharam Sammelan

Guided tour of Virasat-e-Khalsa, Bhai Jaita Ji Memorial, and Panj Pyare Park

Drone Show

Katha and Kirtan Darbar

24th November 2025

Sis Bhet Nagar Kirtan (Kiratpur Sahib to Sri Anandpur Sahib)

Heritage Walk at Sri Anandpur Sahib

Special Assembly Session dedicated to Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji

Dhadi and Kavishar Darbar

Plays/Readings/Poetry based on the life and teachings of Guru Sahib

Gatka and other performances

Drone Show

Katha and Kirtan Darbar

25th November 2025

Bhog Sri Akhand Path Sahib

State-level Blood Donation Drive

Statewide Campaign to plant 3.50 lakh saplings

Gurbani Kirtan

Sarbat Da Bhala Gathering

Drone Show

The Ninth Guru, Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji - the protector of religious freedom and human rights, the embodiment of compassion and sacrifice, and an eternal symbol of courage, continues to shine as a beacon of light for all humanity. Let us, along with our families, bow in reverence on this sacred land and be part of these divine events.

Department of Information and Public Relations, Punjab

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PRESIDENT AGAIN

Deve Gowda re-elected JD(S) chief

SOUTH » PAGE 9

SECURITY REFORM

CISF made new safety regulator for seaports

NEWS » PAGE 12

TATA TRUSTS ROW

Insinuations of a coup 'absurd': Khambata

BUSINESS » PAGE 15

GROUND ZERO

A snakebite that sparked a change

Girl's death at a Kerala school in 2019 triggered a systemic overhaul

OPINION » PAGE 11

TASK CUT OUT

India looks to level series against SA

SPORT » PAGE 17

NEARBY

Panel favours ban on bike taxis to continue

BENGALURU
An expert panel has advised that private two-wheelers may continue to be used for app-based delivery services, but has firmly opposed legalising bike taxis. » PAGE 3

Enumerators yet to be paid for survey work

BENGALURU
Weeks after Karnataka wrapped up its Social and Educational Survey , enumerators across Bengaluru said they were still waiting for the payments they were promised. » PAGE 4

PROPERTYPLUS » PAGE 7

Kharge set to intervene as leadership issue escalates in Karnataka

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Mallikarjun Kharge

In a day of swift political developments over the leadership issue in Karnataka, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday asserted that he would continue in the post and present the Budget too, while his deputy and contender for the top post, D.K. Shivakumar ,wished him "all the best" and said that he was not a man given to factional politics.

Amid escalating crisis, AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge, who is in Bengaluru, is expected to hold meetings with both the leaders on Saturday. Both the leaders also continued with their refrain that the high command would take the final call on the issue.

Meanwhile, a group of of MLAs backing Mr. Shivakumar is planning to go to Delhi over the next two days and demonstrate their strength before the party high command. They have been demanding that the high command be decisive and act on the so-called "pact" on transfer of power as the party had just completed half of its term on November 20.

In a counter, the faction backing Mr. Siddaramaiah, including Ministers G. Parameshwara, H.C. Mahadevappa, Dinesh Gundu Rao and former Minister K.N. Rajanna, held a dinner meeting at Public Works Minister Satish Jarkiholi's residence on Thursday night.

DETAILED REPORTS » PAGE 8

Centre notifies four new Labour Codes

They replace 29 fragmented laws, some of them dating back to 1930s; PM terms Codes 'progressive'; trade unions call them 'pro-employer'

A. M. Jigeesh
Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

The Centre on Friday notified all four Labour Codes, ushering in major reforms, including extending universal social security coverage for gig workers, promising gender pay parity, expanded rights and safety for women workers, giving statutory backing for minimum wages, and introducing fixed-term employment.

The Code on Wages (2019), Industrial Relations Code (2020), Code on Social Security (2020), and the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (OSHWC) Code (2020) had been held back due to protests from trade unions, which continue. In a joint statement, 10 Central Trade Unions called the Codes an "anti-worker and pro-employer" reform.

The Codes, which came into effect on Friday, replace 29 fragmented laws, many of which date back to pre-Independence and early post-Independence eras (1930s-1950s). Prime Minister Narendra Modi described these as "one of the most comprehensive and progressive labour-oriented reforms since Independence".

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Consolidated Codes

An overview of the four Codes notified by the Centre and their scope

- **Code on Wages (2019)** unifies four labour laws related to wages and bonuses
- **Industrial Relations Code (2020)** consolidates laws governing trade unions, conditions of employment in industrial establishments, and the settlement of industrial disputes
- **Code on Social Security (2020)** extends social security benefits to all employees and workers, covering both the organised and unorganised sectors
- **Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code (2020)** consolidates and modernises 13 existing central labour laws related to workplace safety, health, and working conditions

SC issues notice to EC on Kerala plea seeking deferment of SIR

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court of India issued notice to the Election Commission of India (EC) on Friday on a batch of petitions filed by the Kerala government, the Communist Party of India (Marxist) and the Indian Union Muslim League seeking deferment of the special intensive revision of electoral rolls in the State. They pointed out that the "cumbersome" exercise would clash with elections to local bodies.

A three-judge Bench headed by Justice Surya Kant urgently listed the petitions for hearing and orders on November 26.

From November 4

The SIR is scheduled from November 4 to December 4 and the local body elections on December 9 and 11.

The State government, represented by advocate C.K. Sasi, pointed out that simultaneous conduct of the SIR and the elections would be a "near impossibility". "SIR is a huge exercise requiring deployment of 1,76,000 personnel from government and quasi-governmental services for election-related duties and further 68,000 police and other security personnel. SIR is also a comprehensive process with a cumbersome procedure," it submitted.

> SIR is a huge exercise requiring deployment of 1,76,000 personnel... SIR is also a comprehensive process with a cumbersome procedure
> **KERALA GOVERNMENT** in its plea

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Tejas tragedy

Dubai disaster: A videograb of the IAF Tejas fighter jet crashing during the Dubai Air Show on Friday. The pilot, Wing Commander Namansh Syal, died in the accident. REUTERS (REPORT: PAGE 12)

ATM cash van robbery: Four persons, including police constable, detained

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The cash van that was targeted in Bengaluru on November 19. FILE PHOTO

The police have said they have achieved a breakthrough in the over ₹7 crore ATM van robbery case with the detention of four suspected conspirators which, shockingly, includes a police constable attached to Govindapura Police Station in the city.

However, they have not made any arrests nor recovered the cash.

Of the other three, two are currently working with CMS Info Systems, and another is a former employee. CMS is the firm that was tasked with cash transfer and from whose custody the money was looted.

The 2018-batch constable attached to the Crime Department of Govindapura Police Station and the former employee of CMS Info Systems are suspected to be key to the conspiracy behind the heist.

A massive manhunt is on for a gang of four robbers who are on the run with the loot. The police said that they have their identities and photographs now.

City police teams have spread out in multiple neighbouring States on the trail of the gang.

"The delay of over an hour in the incident being reported and information on the leads being leaked to the media have set us back in the investigation. Both of these have given a valuable headstart to the gang of robbers on the run," said a senior official.

Meanwhile, the car used for the robbery was found abandoned on Vellore Road, Chittoor district, Andhra Pradesh.

The car sported a fake licence plate during the robbery, which led to a person unconnected with the case. Now that the car is found with the actual Uttar Pradesh registration plate and a probe is on to track down the owner of the car as well.

There was no money in the vehicle, which is now being subjected to forensic examination to collect evidence. The police suspect that the gang abandoned the car and changed vehicles to mislead the police. "Our teams have fanned out in multiple directions," a senior official said.

"The investigation is going on the right track and we have leads which we were working on," said C. Vamsi Krishna, Joint Commissioner (West), Bengaluru, expressing confidence of cracking the case soon, but refusing to divulge any details.

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Red alert: Ferrari cracks widen after failing again to recapture old glory

The iconic Italian marque has a history of internal bickering when things don't go well on track. This year has shown just how tetchy the Maranello environment can get. Top boss John Elkann rebuked his drivers despite the clear flaws of the 2025 car. The team must get its act together ahead of 2026's major regulatory overhaul if it wants to end a long-running title drought

HAMILTON

S. Dipak Ragav

In February 2024, the Formula One world lived through one of sport's most dramatic developments in recent history. Lewis Hamilton, F1's most decorated driver, announced a shock move to Scuderia Ferrari, the racing series' most storied and successful outfit.

It was the biggest driver transfer of the 21st century, and the new alliance had all the potential for a blockbuster narrative arc: an all-time great seeking to clinch a record eighth title with the most passionately followed team on the grid before he bid adieu.

Glimpses of speed

Hamilton's form had dipped since losing the 2021 championship in controversial circumstances, but he showed glimpses of speed in 2024, claiming two races after going winless in the preceding two years. Ferrari offered a fresh challenge, and nothing is bigger in F1 than winning a title for the Italian marque.

Ferrari, too, was on an upward swing, coming within 14 points of winning the 2024 constructors' title. The team started strongly in the first half of 2022, when ground-effect cars were introduced, before floundering in 2023, but appeared to get back on the right track.

Most seemingly promising ideas, however, look good on paper until they encounter the trials and tribulations of the real world. And now, just a year into the alliance, the Hamilton-Ferrari marriage is already showing signs of discord, and not everyone is happy in Maranello.

There have been indications throughout the year that the two parties are far apart in their ideas of how to go about things. The constant friction between Hamilton and his race engineer over strategy showed they had yet to gel as a unit. The British driver also spoke about working hard back in the factory to get the team to do things differently, based on his experience at Mercedes, which dominated the sport from 2014 to 2021.

Charles Leclerc has cut a frustrated figure in a car which hasn't allowed him to fight for the world title, at a time when his contemporaries are thriving

LECLERC

Meanwhile, Hamilton's teammate Charles Leclerc has cut a frustrated figure in a car which hasn't allowed him to fight for the world title, at a time when his contemporaries are thriving – Max Verstappen has already won four, while Lando Norris and Oscar Piastri have headlined this season's title fight.

After the most recent race in Brazil, where both Hamilton and Leclerc retired, the first clear evidence of tension emerged publicly.

Ferrari chairperson John Elkann rebuked his drivers for talking too much and not focusing on driving, while giving the team's engineers a vote of confidence despite the car not being quick enough to win a race so far this year.

The double retirement in Sao Paulo also saw Ferrari fall from second to fourth in the constructors' standings. It is now 36 points behind Mercedes in the race for the silver medal.

"On one hand, we have our mechanics, who are basically winning the championship with their performance and everything that has been done on the pitstops," Elkann said in reference to the team having the best average pit-stop time so far.

"If we look at our engineers, there's no doubt that the car has improved. If we look at the rest, it is not up to par. And surely we have drivers for whom it is important that they focus on driving and talk less, because we still have important races and getting second place is not impossible."

It was surprising to see such comments when it has been abundantly clear that the car was born with a fundamental design flaw, which has prevented the team from running it optimally.

Getting it wrong

For 2025, Ferrari introduced a new design philosophy in its quest for its first title since 2008, but it has backfired. The essence of the current ground-effect regulations is that the car's ride height must be as close to the ground as possible to generate downforce.

Unfortunately, as early as the second race in China, Ferrari realised that it was going to be a long season. The weekend started promisingly when Hamilton won the Sprint from pole. However, all that hope came crashing down during the Grand Prix when Hamilton finished sixth and was then disqualified for excessive plank wear (the plank is a flat attachment on the car's underside to regulate ground-effect use).

To avoid a repeat, Ferrari had to raise the ride height, but this has come at a considerable cost: lost performance, which has held the scarlet cars back this season.

The problem is so pronounced that Ferrari's engineers ask the drivers to 'lift and coast' very early in the races – this involves getting off the throttle early before braking for the corner, so the downforce reduces, preventing the car from hitting the ground and wearing the plank.

In Hungary, the one race where Ferrari genuinely looked quick, with Leclerc taking pole and leading the race for half-distance, the team struggled and had to make mid-race adjustments during the pit stop. One theory was that it had to run higher tyre pressures, which would have increased the ride height but compromised grip as the contact patch of the rubber on the track reduced. The result saw Leclerc slowly fall back and finish a forlorn fourth.

Just a year into the alliance, the Hamilton-Ferrari marriage is already showing signs of discord

Now on the eve of another major regulatory overhaul for 2026, Ferrari is yet again at a crossroads.

Although the team switched focus early this season to the new car, the recent comments from the top honcho don't contribute to a conducive environment for out-of-the-box ideas to develop.

Even in a budget-cap era, when its financial muscle matters less, the team has among the best infrastructure, housed under one roof in Maranello. This should allow for closer integration among departments and put it at the forefront of innovation.

At the same time, the Scuderia is famously known for its politicking, and the team has often underachieved relative to the resources at its disposal. Especially when things are not going well on track, there has always been finger-pointing between various departments.

Although Hamilton has not been at his best this year, often slower by a few tenths of a second than Leclerc, aiming the guns at the drivers indicates misplaced priorities. Worse, it denotes a fundamental misunderstanding of where the problem lies.

Patience needed

Under team principal Fred Vasseur, who came in 2023, Ferrari made some changes that bore fruit last year. This year has not gone as it hoped, but the management needs to show patience, as getting an F1 team to the front takes time.

Unfortunately, for Ferrari, anything other than winning is not acceptable, and the pressure of being almost a national team of Italy doesn't help its cause either. It has been nearly two decades since Ferrari last won a world championship, and it needs to hit the ground running next year when the new regulations kick in.

For that, the team has to mend the fissures and put up a united front. Whether that happens remains to be seen.

GETTY IMAGES

STACKING UP

ATP Men's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Carlos Alcaraz	22	12,050	19
2	Jannik Sinner	24	11,500	18
3	Alexander Zverev	28	5,160	24
4	Novak Djokovic	38	4,830	20
5	Felix Auger-Aliassime	25	4,245	28
6	Taylor Fritz	28	4,135	23
7	Alex de Minaur	26	4,135	23
8	Lorenzo Musetti	23	4,040	23
9	Ben Shelton	23	3,970	23
10	Jack Draper	23	2,990	17
11	Alexander Bublik	28	2,870	29
12	Casper Ruud	26	2,835	21
13	Daniil Medvedev	29	2,760	24
14	A. Davidovich Fokina	26	2,635	26
15	Holger Rune	22	2,590	21

Top Indians ▶

Sumit Nagal
Rank 273 ▲ 2 spots

Aryan Shah
Rank 399 ▼ 13 spots

WTA Women's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Aryna Sabalenka	27	10,870	21
2	Iga Swiatek	24	8,395	21
3	Coco Gauff	21	6,763	21
4	Amanda Anisimova	24	6,287	23
5	Elena Rybakina	26	5,850	23
6	Jessica Pegula	31	5,583	23
7	Madison Keys	30	4,335	21
8	Jasmine Paolini	29	4,325	19
9	Mirra Andreeva	18	4,319	19
10	Ekaterina Alexandrova	31	3,375	27
11	Belinda Bencic	28	3,168	22
12	Clara Tauson	22	2,770	23
13	Linda Noskova	21	2,641	25
14	Elina Svitolina	31	2,606	16
15	Emma Navarro	24	2,515	25

Top Indians ▶

Sahaja Yamalapalli
Rank 310 ▼ 1 spot

Shrivalli Bhamidipaty
Rank 386 ▼ 5 spots

F1 Drivers' standings

#	Driver	Team	Points	Wins
1	Lando Norris	McLaren	390	7
2	Oscar Piastri	McLaren	366	7
3	Max Verstappen	Red Bull	341	5
4	George Russell	Mercedes	276	2
5	Charles Leclerc	Ferrari	214	0
6	Lewis Hamilton	Ferrari	148	0
7	Kimi Antonelli	Mercedes	122	0
8	Alexander Albon	Williams	73	0
9	Nico Hulkenberg	Kick Sauber	43	0
10	Isack Hadjar	Racing Bulls	43	0
11	Oliver Bearman	Haas	38	0
12	Fernando Alonso	Aston Martin	40	0
13	Carlos Sainz	Williams	40	0
14	Liam Lawson	Racing Bulls	32	0
15	Lance Stroll	Aston Martin	36	0
16	Esteban Ocon	Haas	30	0
17	Yuki Tsunoda	Red Bull	28	0
18	Pierre Gasly	Alpine	22	0
19	Gabriel Bortoleto	Kick Sauber	19	0
20	Franco Colapinto	Alpine	0	0

Lando Norris

Oscar Piastri

F1 Constructors' standings

Pos	Team	Points	Wins
1	McLaren	756	14
2	Mercedes	398	2
3	Red Bull	366	5
4	Ferrari	362	0
5	Williams	111	0
6	RB	82	0
7	Aston Martin	72	0
8	Haas	70	0
9	Sauber	62	0
10	Alpine	22	0

Badminton Men's ranking

#	Player	Points	Events
1	Shi Yu Qi	1,12,047	12
2	Anders Antonsen	98,313	17
3	Kunlavut Vitidsarn	96,179	18
4	Jonatan Christie	84,124	17
5	Li Shi Feng	82,728	18
6	Chou Tien Chen	80,619	26
7	Alex Lanier	72,611	15
8	Christo Popov	70,690	19
9	Kodai Naraoka	69,254	22
10	Loh Kean Yew	65,709	20
11	Weng Hong Yang	63,710	19
12	Lin Chun-Yi	60,510	21
13	Kenta Nishimoto	59,732	24
14	Lakshya Sen	58,202	21
15	Toma Junior Popov	55,101	19

Top Indians ▶

Lakshya Sen
Rank 14

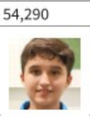
Ayush Shetty
Rank 32

Badminton Women's ranking

#	Player	Points	Events
1	An Se Young	1,13,770	15
2	Wang Zhi Yi	1,05,362	17
3	Akane Yamaguchi	91,964	16
4	Han Yue	91,350	16
5	Chen Yu Fei	89,935	16
6	Pornpawee Chochuwong	71,488	18
7	Putri Kusuma Wardani	66,970	19
8	Ratchanok Intanon	65,964	20
9	Tomoka Miyazaki	63,064	21
10	Gregoria Mariska Tunjung	59,900	12
11	Sim Yu Jin	57,989	13
12	Gao Fang Jie	56,550	17
13	P.V. Sindhu	54,914	15
14	Supanida Katethong	54,587	14
15	Busanan Ongbamrungphan	54,290	17

Top Indians ▶

P.V. Sindhu
Rank 13


Unnati Hooda
Rank 28

Test Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Joe Root	908	932
2	Harry Brook	868	898
3	Kane Williamson	850	919
4	Steve Smith	816	947
5	Temba Bavuma	794	806
6	Kamindu Mendis	781	784
7	Yashasvi Jaiswal	749	858
8	Daryl Mitchell	748	804
9	Ben Duckett	747	787
10	Travis Head	740	884

Test Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Jasprit Bumrah	895	908
2	Matt Henry	846	846
3	Noman Ali	843	853
4	Pat Cummins	838	914
5	Kagiso Rabada	815	902
5	Josh Hazlewood	815	864
7	Scott Boland	784	784
8	Nathan Lyon	769	812
9	Mitchell Starc	766	807
9	Gus Atkinson	766	766

ODI Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Daryl Mitchell	782	782
2	Rohit Sharma	781	882
3	Ibrahim Zadran	764	764
4	Shubman Gill	745	847
5	Virat Kohli	725	909
6	Babar Azam	722	898
7	Harry Tector	708	767
8	Shreyas Iyer	700	710
9	Charith Asalanka	690	725
10	Shai Hope	689	802

ODI Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Rashid Khan	710	799
2	Jofra Archer	670	654
3	Keshav Maharaj	660	741
4	Maheesh Theekshana	647	686
5	Bernard Scholtz	645	648
6	Kuldeep Yadav	634	761
7	Mitchell Santner	630	657
8	Josh Hazlewood	628	727
9	Abrar Ahmed	624	691
10	Wanindu Hasaranga	619	625

T20I Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Abhishek Sharma	920	931
2	Phil Salt	849	881
3	Pathum Nissanka	779	779
4	Jos Buttler	770	794
5	Tilak Varma	761	845
6	Travis Head	713	885
7	Kusal Perera	692	786
8	Suryakumar Yadav	691	912
9	Mitchell Marsh	684	694
10	Tim Seifert	683	727

T20I Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Varun Chakaravarthy	780	803
2	Jacob Duffy	699	750
3	Rashid Khan	694	828
4	Wanindu Hasaranga	687	809
5	Adil Rashid	686	747
6	Nuwan Thushara	676	714
7	Akeal Hosein	675	726
8	Abrar Ahmed	666	703
9	Nathan Ellis	660	678
10	Adam Zampa	655	746

KARNATAKA STATE SEEDS CORPORATION LIMITED

(Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
"Beeja Bhavana", Ballari Road, Hebbal, Bengaluru-560 024.
Ph: 080 - 23415652 / 23415656. Fax: 080-23415895
No: KSSC/IA&Vig/114 Vol-IV/3755/2025-26 Date: 20.11.2025

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITORS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2025 - 26 ON HALF YEARLY BASIS - CALL-2

Karnataka State Seeds Corporation Ltd., **"Beeja Bhavana"**, Ballari Road, Hebbal, Bengaluru - 560024 is intended for Expression of Interest from the Chartered Accountants/Cost Accountants Firms for Internal Audit of the Company Accounts of Zone-IV and V in Karnataka for the year 2025 - 26 on half yearly basis.

1. Last date for submission of tender through e-Procurement is on **15.12.2025 at 5.00 p.m.**
2. Date of opening of Technical Bid is on **17.12.2025 at 11.00 a.m** at Registered Office and opening of Commercial Bid will be intimated later.
3. More informations can be obtained from the e-procurement website at **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Managing Director.

Andhra Pradesh Centre for Financial Systems & Services. (APCFSS)

O/o. The Chief Executive Officer, 3rd floor, Nidhi Bhavan, Mangalagiri, Guntur Dist - 522503 web:www.apcfss.in
(An undertaking of A.P. Govt.)

'Notice Inviting Tender(NIT)'

Selection of Consulting Agency for the Preparation of Three Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for Comprehensive Development Initiatives in Andhra Pradesh

The Andhra Pradesh Centre for Financial Systems and Services (APCFSS) invites esteemed and qualified professional consulting agencies to submit proposals for preparing Three Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) that will serve as the framework for planning and implementing Comprehensive Development Initiatives in Andhra Pradesh.

Interested agencies may download the Request for Proposal (RFP) document from **www.apeprocurement.gov.in** and **www.apcfss.in** from **21.11.2025** onwards. Agencies are required to submit their proposals in the prescribed format on or before the Proposal Due Date specified in the RFP document. Queries and Clarifications related to the RFP can be sent to **tenders@apcfss.in**

DIPR 4593PP/CL, Dt.21-11-2025 **Sd/- CEO, APCFSS**

Office of the Industries Commissioner and Director of Industries and Commerce/ Managing Director, Bureau for Facilitating MSMEs of Tamil Nadu (FaMeTN), MSME Department, Government of Tamil Nadu

SIDCO Corporate Office Building, Thiru vi Ka Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600 032

Applications are invited for the post of **Business Facilitation Officer in the districts of Coimbatore, Trichy, Madurai and Hosur for the O/o Industries Commissioner & Director of Industries and Commerce.**

Sl. No.	Authority and official Website	Recruitment details
1.	General Manager, FaMeTN (https://FaMeTN.com/careers)	Detailed notification including eligibility criteria such as qualifications, age limit, experience, job description and skill requirements is available on FaMeTN's official website. Interested candidates are advised to submit their applications online through the official website of FaMeTN. After the initial screening and evaluation, shortlisted candidates will be called for a physical interview. The date time and venue of the interview will be announced shortly. Further notifications and communication will be published only on the official website. Candidates are advised to regularly check the website for updates.

DIPR/ 1387 /DISPLAY/2025 **GM, FaMeTN MSME Department**

AMARAVATI DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED (ADCL)

54-15-1, Venkateswara Nagar, Near Yalamanchili Complex, Sonovision Building, Ring Road, Vijayawada.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

NIT No.411/ADCL/IPD/2025-26, DATED: 21.11.2025
Request for Proposal (RFP) for Engagement of **"Project Management Consultant (PMC) for the Work of Package XXXXXI:** Construction of Roads, Drains, Water Supply, Sewerage, Utility Ducts for Power & ICT, Reuse Waterline, STP & Avenue Plantation, Compatible with Trunk Infrastructure in layouts for Land Pooling Schemes for Krishnayapalem (P), Venkatapalem (P), Penumaka (P) and Undavalli (P) villages in ZONE-8 area and Penumaka Layout in adjacent zones in Amaravati Capital City, Andhra Pradesh on Lumpsum Contract (% Tender) basis including DLP of 2 years".

NIT No.412/ADCL/IPD/2025-26, DATED: 21.11.2025
Request for Proposal (RFP) for Engagement of "Project Management Consultant (PMC) for the Works of
1. Package XXXXX : World Bank and ADB Financed Amaravati Capital City Development Program Related Survey, Investigation, Design, Construction, Testing, Commissioning of Flood Pumping Station-2 at Undavalli (Capacity 8400 Cusec) and 15 Years Operation & Maintenance on Lumpsum Contract (% Tender) basis in Amaravati Capital City of Andhra Pradesh State, India.
2. Package XXXXXIII : Engineering and Construction of Two-Lane Bridge including Ship Lock and Regulator to Kondaveetivagu and Guntur Channel in Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh on Lumpsum (% Tender) basis including DLP of 2 Years".
The bid can be downloaded on AP e-procurement portal from **22.11.2025 to 15.12.2025 up to 15.00 Hrs.** Due date for submission of Bid is **15.12.2025 up to 16.00 Hrs,** Technical Bid opening is on **15.12.2025 @17.00 Hrs.** For further details please refer to **www.apeprocurement.gov.in and www.adcl.in**

Sd/- Chairperson and Managing Director, ADCL, Vijayawada.

CAUVERY NEERAVARI NIGAMA NIYAMITHA

(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the Executive Engineer, No:2 VC Division, Maddur-571428. Mandya Dist

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION NO-07/2025-26 Dated : 19.11.2025

Two cover System - Through e-procurement

This office's tender Notification No.07/2025-26, Dated: 19.11.2025 for a total No of 04 works (Minimum amount-90.00 lakhs Maximum amount Rs. 300.00 lakhs). Item wise rate tender Is Invited from eligible KPWD Class-II and Above contractors. Tender queries and clarification as per e-portal. E.M.D should be paid through E-payment. Last date of submission of tenders through online : As per e-Portal, Date of opening of tender As per e-portal. For additional Information log on to **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-Executive Engineer, Cauvery Neeravari Nigama Ltd, No.02, VC Division, Maddur.

ವಾಸಾಸಂ೫/ಹಿಸನಿ–ಮಂ/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/590/2025–26

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ

(ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕೋಶ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು)
ಇ–ಮೇಲ್ : ka.bengaluru.urban.dudc@gmail.com
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 080–22211372/352

ಸಂ: ಜಿನಕೋ/ತಾ.ಶಾ/ನಗರೋತ್ಥಾನ ಹಂತ–04/01/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 21.11.2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕೋಶ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ ಬೊಮ್ಮಸಂದ್ರ ಪುರಸಭೆ ಮತ್ತು ಕೋನಪ್ಪನ ಅಗ್ರಹಾರ ಪುರಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಮೃತ್ ನಗರೋತ್ಥಾನ ಹಂತ–4.0 ನಿಧಿ ಅನುದಾನದಡಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಅರ್ಹ ದರ್ಜೆಯ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಮೊಹರಾದ ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.	ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ವರ್ಗ
1	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT48338	152.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ
2	DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT50872	272.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ
3	DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT50864	209.00	ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ

1) ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆ/ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ, ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ, ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕದ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. 2) ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು.
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕೋಶ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ

ವಾಸಾಸಂ೫/ವಾಪ್ರ/ಸ್ವಾನ್/3963/2025–26

PUNJAB STATE WAREHOUSING CORPORATION

SCO 74-75, BANK SQUARE, SECTOR-17B CHANDIGARH
PBX: 0172-5197847, 5197846

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

PSWC invites online tenders through GeM Portal for creation of 5.20 LMT godown capacities at 12 locations in the State of Punjab for guaranteed lease of 10 years on Build, Own and Operate/Lease basis for storage requirements of FCI under two bid system 'Technical Bid' and 'Financial Bid'.

NIT (alongwith GeM Bid IDs) is available on Department's website i.e. https://pswc.in

PSWC reserves the right to scrap the tender at any stage without assigning any reason and PSWC will not be held liable for any costs and consequences incurred by the intending bidders.

Note: Any corrigendum(s)/Notification(s) to this Notice Inviting E-Tender shall be published Department's website & GeM Portal.

1004/12/2025-26/5259 **Managing Director, PSWC**

Karnataka Food & Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd.

(Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
No.16/I, MILLERS TANK BED AREA, BANGALORE-560 052
Ph: 080-2226 0932 E-mail: admnkfcsc123@yahoo.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕಆನಾಸನಿನಿ/ಆಡಳಿತ/ನೇ.ನೇ/746/2025–26/ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 21.11.2025

NOTIFICAITON

The Karnataka Food and Civil Supplies Corporation Limited have published 1:3 final list of candidates for the recruitment of Junior Assistant post. The document verification of the candidates listed in 1:3 list will be conducted on 01, 02 and 03 December 2025. Further information on the venue, date and time can be obtained from the KFCSC website https://kfcsc.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/-
Managing Director

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed that a suit in **O.S. No. 4524/2021** is pending before the Hon'ble VII Additional City Civil and Sessions Judge, Bengaluru (CCH-19), filed by Sri K. Linge Gowda (Plaintiff) against M.D. Mahadevamma GVS Marulaiah Trust (Defendants), seeking Specific Performance of the Agreement to Sell dated 03.12.2007 and other consequential reliefs, in respect of the immovable property bearing Sy. No. 33, measuring 7 Acres converted land situated at Hosakerehalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk (Schedule Property).

It is further notified that during the pendency of the aforesaid suit, certain Trustees, along with Kumari G.V. Lasya and Sri T. Prakash, have illegally and highhandedly executed a Sale Deed dated 02.08.2025 in favour of Sri H. Narayan, son of Sri Hanumanthappa, before the Sub-Registrar Attibele.

The said Sale Deed is executed pendente lite, despite subsisting proceedings. The Plaintiff has filed an application seeking orders against such illegal alienation and has further sought for a Temporary Injunction to restrain the purchaser i.e., Sri H. Narayan from alienating, encumbering, or creating any third-party interests in any manner over the suit schedule property.

That by virtue of order dated 11.11.2025, the Hon'ble Court was pleased to restrain Sri. H Narayan from alienating, encumbering, or dealing with the schedule property in any manner until disposal of the suit.

Members of the general public, prospective purchasers, financiers, institutions, or any persons dealing with the schedule property are hereby cautioned that any such transaction, dealing, or claim created over the schedule property shall be subject to the pending litigation in O.S. No. 4524/2021, and the Plaintiff shall not be held responsible for any loss, prejudice, or consequences arising therefrom.

SCHEDULE PROPETY

All that piece and parcel of the land bearing Sy.No.33, measuring 7 acres converted land situated at Hosakerehalli village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, and bounded by: EAST by : Tank; WEST by : Land bearing Sy.No.52; NORTH by: Land bearing Sy.No.124 and Sy.No.33; SOUTH by: Land bearing Sy.No.12.

By the Order of the Court
Sd/-
Advocate for the Petitioner
Abhishek R Huddar,
Vidhrta Law Chambers,
#111, 1st Floor, Embassy Centre,
Crescent Road, Bengaluru-560001

JAIPUR VIDYUT VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (I&S)
प्रभास्मि शशि सूर्ययोः OLD POWER HOUSE PREMISES, BANI PARK, JAIPUR-302006
TELEFAX:0141-2200582

e-PROCUREMENT SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE

E-tender is invited for Award of Loading & unloading of store material at stores under ACOS, JVVNL, Alwar/Baran/Bharatpur/Bundi/Dausa/Dholpur/Jhalawar/ Karauli/ Kota/Sawaimadhopur/Tonk, (TN-51, UBN- VVN2526SLOB00495). All the details regarding tenders are available at web site **www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jvvnl and www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in.** In future, corrigendum/extension, if any, shall be published only at above web sites.

Raj.Samwad/C/25/14274 JPR-3083 (2025) SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (I&S)
For Electricity Complaints Toll Free No. 1800 180 6507

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

(Regd. Office: PSEB head office, The Mall Patiala-147001
Corporate Identity No: U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in
(Contact No. 96461-01116)

Tender Enquiry No. 10/GC/TS/PSPCL/2025-26 **Dated: 22.11.2025**

ASE/ Grid Construction, opp. PAU Gate No.1, PSPCL, Ludhiana invites Short Term e-Tender for Outsourcing of Matching work of Power Transformers Augmentation related works on partial turnkey mode under RDSS Scheme under Grid Construction Division, Ludhiana under Grid Construction Circle, Ludhiana.
For detailed NIT and Tender Specifications please refer to **http://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from **22.11.2025 (01.00 PM onwards)**.
Note: Corrigendum and amendments, if any, will be published online at **http://eproc.punjab.gov.in**

C819/25 1079/12/2025-26/5250

Office of the Mission Director, National Livelihood Mission Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood Dept.,

No. 4, 2nd Floor, MYSUGAR Building, J.C. Road, Near Town Hall, Bengaluru-560002. email: nrlmkarnataka@gmail.com

No. KSRLPS/FNHW/FNHW/12/2024-FNHW-KSRLPS **Date: 21.11.2025**

Tender Notification

KSRLM invites Requests for Proposal (RFP) for hiring an agency to evaluate the impact of Food, Nutrition, Health, and WASH (FNHW) interventions in Immersion Sites under the Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Mission (KSRLM). The RFP was published on the "KPPP Portal" on 21.11.2025. Interested and eligible bidders may participate by logging in to the website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. The last date for submission of the RFP is 09.12.2025 on or before 5:00 PM. Bidders are requested to refer to the tender document for the schedule and further details, vide Tender Reference No: KSRLPS/2025-26/SE0037.

Sd/-
Additional Mission Director
Sanjeevini-KSRLPS
Bangalore.

DIPR/CP/3965/AKAR/2025-26

Government of Karnataka

The Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Hassan Division, Hassan.

No: EE/PWD/HSN/AE-3/2025-26/ DATED: 19.11.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION NO: 26/ 2025-26, Dated: 19.11.2025

Tender is invited by the Public Works Department on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka, as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000, Standard Tender Document KW-2 & KW-3 from the eligible registered Contractors of Karnataka PWD and the contractors belonging to Scheduled castes & Scheduled Tribes shall be domicile of the State of Karnataka PWD for more than 10 years and from the eligible registered Contractors belonging to Category-I & Category-2(A) through E-Procurement for total no. of 07 Works under PWD Hassan Division jurisdiction. In that 01 works reserved for Scheduled castes Contractors, 02 works reserved for Category-2(A) and 01 works reserved for Category-I Contractors. The minimum tender amount is Rs.21.18 Lakhs and maximum tender amount is Rs.80.70 Lakhs. Last date & time for the works is date: 08.12.2025 @ 4:00 PM For more details visit https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in or contact this office through Phone No. 08172-268437 or in person during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD, Hassan Division, Hassan.

ವಾಸಾಸಂ೫/ಹಿಸನ/ಹಾಸನ/787/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

Govt.of Karnataka

Vijayapur City Corporation, Vijayapura.

Phone:08352-278539, Helpline: 08352-222474 Fax.No:08352-278532,
Website: www.bijapurcity.gov.in, E-mail ID: itstaff_ulb_bijapur@gmail.com

No: VCC/PWD/MN/Tender Notification/2025-26/3797 Date: 17.11.2025

E-Procurement Tender Notification

Online E-proc are invited for 9 works, Subjected to standard Bid Documents Terms and conditions of KW-1/2/3 are called under Corporation Fund 2024-25 of Vijayapur City Corporation Vijayapur. All Interested PWD Registered Contractors can participate in the Tender Process, for more details regarding the Tender process, terms and conditions please visit website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in Or Contact PWD section of Vijayapur City Corporation, Vijayapur during the office timings only. The details of work is as follows:

Sl. No	Name of Work	Estimated Amount (Rs. In Lakhs)	Work Period
1	Inviting quotation for supply of three wheeler electrical vehicle to vishesha only in Vijayapur City corporation for estimate pupose only	Rates for only Preparation of Estimate	–
2	Distribution of tabs for SSLC to Degree Students Boys and Girls for Municipal labour Childrens the year 2025-26 SFC/SCSP Fund	Rates for only Preparation of Estimate	–
3	Distribution of Tabs for SSLC to Degree Students Boys and Girls for Municipal labour Childrens the year 2025-26 in 24.10% Municipal Fund.	Rates for only Preparation of Estimate	–
4	Traffic equipment and junction equipment for Vijayapur City.	Rates for only Preparation of Estimate	–
5	Intelligent Traffic management system (ITMS) for Vijaypur City and Ring Road.	Rates for only Preparation of Estimate	–
6	Replacement of Old damaged tub lights with new LED street lights in Vijayapur City	60.00	6 Months
7	Extension of Street Light poles with Line in Ward No 13 necessity places in Vijayapur	14.00	6 Months
8	Providing and fixing 360 Drgree Camara Indi Road STP in Vijayapur City	8.00	3 Months
9	Providing and fixing Octagonal poles with Street Light near Ibrahim Roja H D Alur House to Suguna Hospital in Ward No 33 of Vijayapur City.	4.10	3 Months

1) **Last date for Tender Submission:** 27.11.2025 upto 4-00 PM.
2) **Date of Technical bid Opening :**28.11.2025 After noon 4-30 PM.
3) **Date of Financial bid Opening :** 29.11.2025 After noon 5.00 PM
1) If at all the prescribed date for tender process happens to be a Government holidays the next working day should be considered for the tender process.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, VCC, Vijayapura **Sd/- Superintending Engineer, VCC, Vijayapura** **Sd/- Commissioner VCC, Vijayapura**

ವಾಸಾಸಂ೫/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/476/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

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DEPARTMENT OF STAMPS AND REGISTRATION

Office of the Inspector General of Registration and Commissioner of Stamps
Kandaya Bhavan, 8th Floor, K.G. Road, Bengaluru-560009
Tel : 080-22220436, Email: aigrcomp@karnataka.gov.in

No. Comp/65/2025-26 Date: 19.11.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited by the Department of Stamps and Registration for **"Selection of Agency to provide IT Manpower".** The tender forms, terms and conditions may be obtained through e-Procurement portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** The last date for submitting completed tender forms is **19.12.2025 till 5.00 pm.** For further details please contact **Assistant Inspector General of Registration (Computers) & Project Director Kaveri (e-mail: aigrcomp@karnataka.gov.in).**

Sd/- Inspector General of Registration and Commissioner of Stamps, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/YC/3957/2025-26

Government of Karnataka

Office of the Town Panchayat, Hosanagara – 577418, District: Shivamogga

Web: http://hosanagaratown.mrc.gov.in/
E-mail: itstaff_ulb_hosanagara@yahoo.co.in
Tel: 08185-221081, 221222 Fax: 08185-221005

Sd No.: HTP/C/CR/50/2025-26 Date: 18-11-2025

Tender Notice (Through e-Procurement)

Tenders are invited from eligible civil contractors of Public Works Department through e-Procurement to carry out the following works under the jurisdiction of Hosanagara Town Panchayat, District: Shivamogga, under various schemes of Hosanagara Town Panchayat. Interested eligible contractors may submit item-wise tenders by mentioning their minimum price. The price can be entered as per e-tender documents KW-1, KW-2 & KW-3 through e-Procurement (www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in). Details are available on the e-Procurement website: www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in

1. Last date for submission of online application: 04-12-2025 till 5.30 PM **2.** Date of opening of technical bids in e-Procurement: 06-12-2025 at 5.30 PM (In case of necessity, it will be opened on the next date in the evening.) **3**. Date of opening of financial bids in e-Procurement: 07-12-2025 at 5.30 PM (In case of necessity, it will be opened on the next date in the evening.) **4.** More information can be obtained during the office hours of the Town Panchayat, Hosanagara, and also can be obtained on the KPPP portal (www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in).

Sl.No. 1. Work Indent No.: DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT44630/CALL-2 **Estimated Cost**: Rs.75 lakhs **EMD Amount: Rs.** 150000 **Category/Reservation:** General

Sl.No. 2. Work Indent No.: DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT44632/CALL-2 **Estimated Cost**: Rs.95 lakhs **EMD Amount: Rs.** 190000 **Category/Reservation:** General

Sl.No. 3. Work Indent No.: DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT44629/CALL-2 **Estimated Cost**: Rs.30 lakhs **EMD Amount: Rs.** 60000 **Category/Reservation:** General

Sl.No. 4. Work Indent No.: DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT38017/CALL-4 **Estimated Cost**: Rs.21.72 lakhs **EMD Amount: Rs.** 51800 **Category/Reservation:** General

Sl.No. 5. Work Indent No.: DMA/2025-26/EL/WORK_INDENT43765/CALL-2 **Estimated Cost**: Rs.4.76 lakhs **EMD Amount: Rs.** 11900 **Category/Reservation:** General

Tender Conditions: **1**. For this tender, any amendments and changes in this regard will be published in the KPPP portal (www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in). **2**. Further details can be found on the Town Panchayat website http://hosanagaratown.mrc.gov.in/ and also in the Technical Department, Town Panchayat, Hosanagara, during office hours. **3**.The Town Panchayat,Hosanagara, reserves the right to accept or reject any tender.

Sd/- Chief Officer Town Panchayat, Hosanagara.

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, THANUJA Karathamada Subbaiah, w/o; Hemanth Monnikanda Chengappa r/o; Karmadu Ammathi Virajpet, Kodagu–571211. Have changed my name as Thanuja Monnikanda Hemanth. vide affidavit on 19.11.25

I, JAYADEV Nayak, s/o; Nayak Krishnanand Ramachnadra r/o; 19/1, 11th B Cross, Vyalikaval, Malleswaram, Blr–560003. Have changed my name as Jayadev Krishnanand Nayak. vide affidavit on 20.11.25

I, SHAILEJA Verma, w/o; Anuj Rawat r/o; 19031, Prestige Ferns Residency, Tower 19, Haralur Road, Blr–560102. Have changed my name as Shaileja Arunkumar Verma. Vide affidavit on 19/11/2025.

I BHARGAVA VIJAYA S/o, Jayathirtha R/o 330, 4th C Main, Maruti Layout, Vasantapura, Bangalore. 560061, have changed my name to VEERA RAGHAVAN vide affidavit executed on 05th November 2025 before Commissioner of Oaths and Notary Public Sri V Ganeshrao vide IN-DL87672499359215X following Gazette publication

I, NEHA Agiwal, D/o Jaidev Gulati, R/a Flat No.260, Sector-C, Jal Vayu Vihar, Kammanahalli, Bangalore-560043 have changed my name to Neha Gulati vide affidavit dt: 21.11.2025 sworn before Notary Vatsala, B'luru.

I, DIVAKAR Naidu Madhava, S/o Madhava Naidu Vengammanaidu Kondini, R/at No.378, 23rd Main, 2nd Stage, B T M Layout, Bengaluru-560076, have changed my name from Diwakar Madhava to Divakar Naidu Madhava vide affidavit dated 20/11/2025 sworn before Notary C.V.Earappa, Bengaluru.

LOST & FOUND

I, Rohith B S s/o K N Sreenivasappa R/o No.08, 1st floor, Rohith Nilaya, 4th cross, Lakeshore Garden, Vidyaranyapura, Bengaluru 560097 Have lost my original ICSE New Delhi issued 10th class pass certificate. No.TF80014265 have given police complaint in this regard Ref No.1911756/2025 on 20/11/2025

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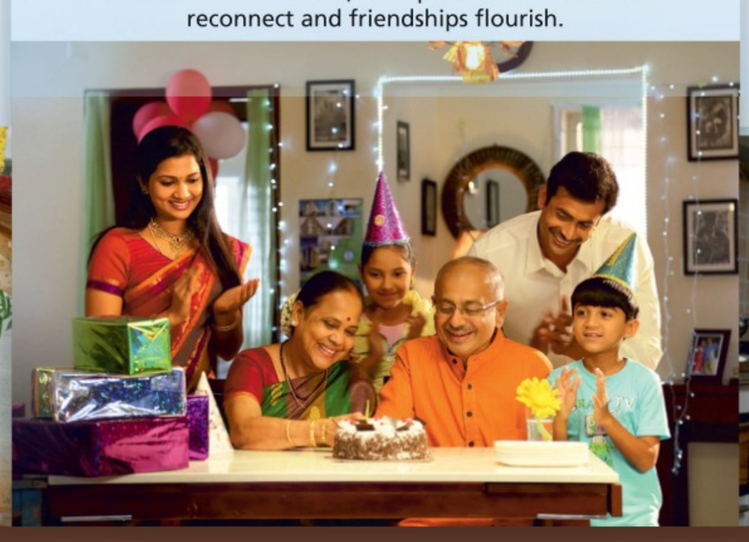

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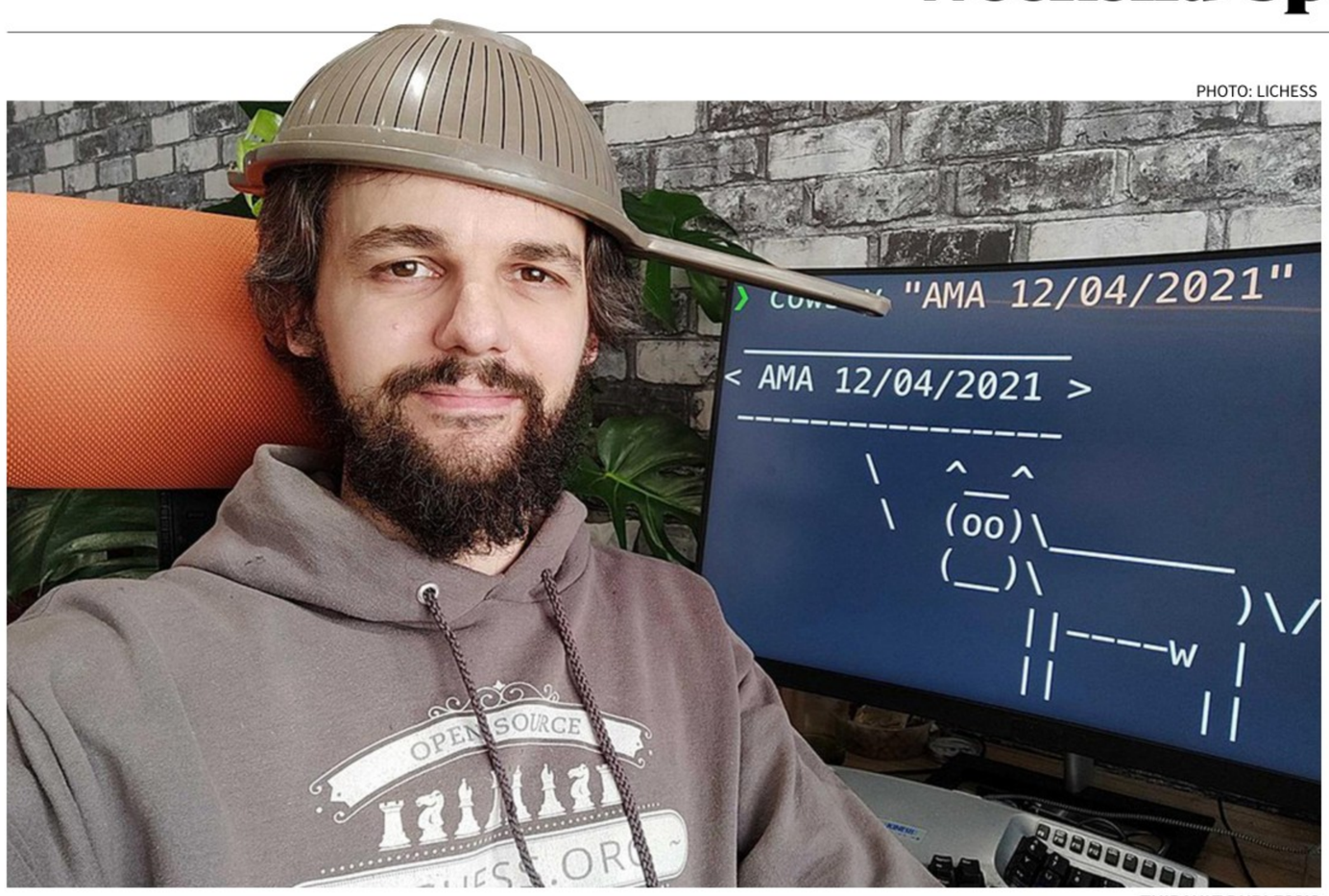
PHOTO: LICHESS



THIBAULT DUPLESSIS

PHOTO : P.K. AJITH KUMAR

THEO WAIT

The Lichess story: the cool, open-source site helping power the chess boom

What started as a personal coding project for French programmer Thibault Duplessis has grown into a free destination for millions of chess lovers, ranging from amateurs to World champions. Run by just three full-time workers and an army of volunteers, Lichess is both one of the world's leading gaming websites and an inspirational community enterprise

P.K. Ajith Kumar

Theo Wait was studying at University College London in 2011 when he rediscovered chess. He had been taught the game by his grandfather, but he never really continued with it. Wait's best friend at college, a Frenchman, sent him a link to play chess on a new French website he had come across. It was called Lichess.

Wait first played with his friend and then others on the site. He found Lichess cool. Some 14 years and a pandemic later, Lichess has become a lot cooler. Or hotter, if you look at the numbers, or the influence it has on the game of chess.

Everything you need

Lichess is free, open source, has no ads, and requires no registration. It lets millions from across the world, ranging from amateurs to World champions, play chess online, learn its intricacies, and watch live all the major tournaments, including the World Championship and the World Cup.

Lichess does all that with just three full-time workers. Wait is one of them. Founder Thibault Duplessis and mobile developer Vincent Velociter are the others. An army of volunteers from around the globe keeps the website running and growing, ensuring the game of chess is accessible to everyone, without ever having to pay a subscription fee. It operates with donations (averaging five Euros per contributor).

"I began volunteering my time by trying to translate the website into Russian, as I was a student of the language then," Wait tells *The Hindu* at Arpora, Goa, during the World Cup, which he is covering for Lichess. "Around 2013, Thibault reached out to me and he said, 'You know, would you like to be part of the team?'"

> We are not for sale. It is imperative that Lichess keeps going; I know many people cannot afford subscription fees. And nobody wants to see a monopoly
>
> **THEO WAIT**
> Director of operations, Lichess

Wait could not have imagined at the time that he was going to be a part of something truly unique, in the internet and social spaces. Lichess is not just one of the world's leading gaming websites, it is one of the most popular open source projects as well.

"Lichess is now one of the 200 or 300 biggest websites in the world by traffic," says Wait, who works as the director of operations. "We have hundreds of millions of visits every month. We provide a completely free platform for anyone to play or learn chess. We have all of the learning materials that you need to learn how to play chess, given entirely for free. We have courses, we have studies. Anyone interested in chess can begin experimenting with it."

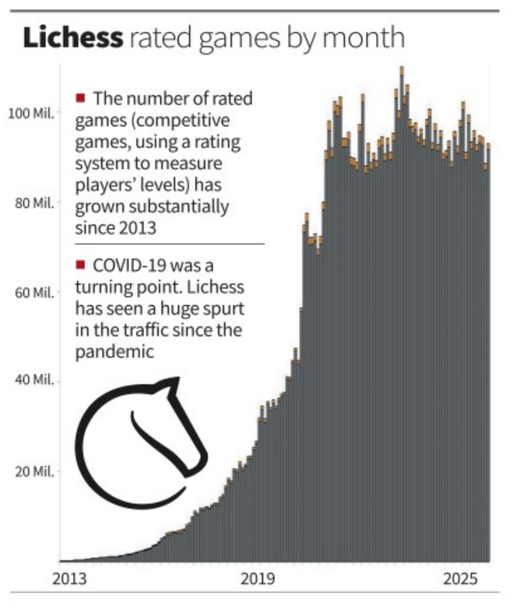
How did it all begin?

"Lichess was born when Thibault, a very talented programmer, wanted to learn a new developing language called Scala," says Wait. "So, to practise with this, he began creating a chess website, because it has lots of features which are very useful for programming."

There were teething troubles, yes. "Thibault wasn't a formal chess player and in the early Lichess, we didn't get all the chess rules correctly," recalls Wait. "For example, en passant didn't exist, or you could castle through check. But those issues were fixed very early. He created a chat feature, using which people pointed out flaws."

Now, people are talking about the important role Lichess plays in the growth of chess. Vidit Gujrathi, who was part of the Olympiad-winning Indian team, says he has great regard for the service Lichess offers the game.

"Now its mobile application is much smoother and it is through Lichess that I follow tournaments," he tells *The Hindu* over the phone. "I have a lot of respect for Thibault, who is running it with his passion."


Lichess rated games by month
The number of rated games (competitive games, using a rating system to measure players' levels) has grown substantially since 2013
COVID-19 was a turning point. Lichess has seen a huge spurt in the traffic since the pandemic
100 Mil.
80 Mil.
60 Mil.
40 Mil.
20 Mil.
2013
2019
2025

The other day, Vidit, the current World No. 27, had posted on X: "Such an amazing open source work..." Anish Giri, the World No. 5 from the Netherlands, replied: "Absolutely."

Endorsements matter

"Such endorsements matter to Lichess," says Wait. "They motivate the team. There have been many top players who have found Lichess useful in many ways, including their preparation. Javokhir Sindarov, who has done well at the World Cup here, said he was using the Lichess features for his preparation, including opening. The world's best players play on Lichess, though some of them may not be revealing their identities."

Millions of games are played on Lichess every day. "I think it is about 3.5 million games a day, the rated ones that is; but if you take unrated games played against bots engines or the anonymous games, you're looking at maybe around six-seven million," says Wait. "Of course, the pandemic saw a huge spurt in the traffic. Just before COVID-19, we were averaging maybe around 50,000 people online at any given time, but that number tripled in 2020."

Chess was, in fact, the only game that grew during the pandemic. The world chess governing body did well to take chess to more people by using several online tournaments, including an Online Chess Olympiad, in which India was declared the joint-winner with Russia (which had won the final but had to share the title after India successfully appealed against an internet outage).

Chess is a game most ideal for the internet. All you need is a mobile phone and decent connectivity to play an interesting game. And, of course, Lichess isn't the only website out there for chess. There are the likes of *chess.com* and Chessbase (and its hugely popular Indian version).

Lichess wants to ensure that chess remains free and is not corporatised. "We are not for sale," says Wait. "We have had lots of interest from many other people and some companies, including a big one back in 2016-2017. It is imperative that Lichess keeps going; I know many people cannot afford subscription fees. And nobody wants to see a monopoly."

It is expensive to keep Lichess going. "It costs us around 720,000 US dollars a year to run Lichess," he says. "That includes salaries and servers, moderators, content, and the prize-fund tournaments that we put out. And those tournaments are important, too. At the end of the day, it is very nice for titled players to have an opportunity to just earn some money, you know, playing chess as well."

Financial support

Wait says most of the financial contributions come from North America and Europe. "That is not surprising, as there is a big disparity in wealth globally, right?" he points out. "If a company was interested in supporting us, we would definitely be open to a conversation. And, of course, one can contribute by volunteering, too."

Lichess would like to do more in India, which is second only to Russia in terms of the number of followers.

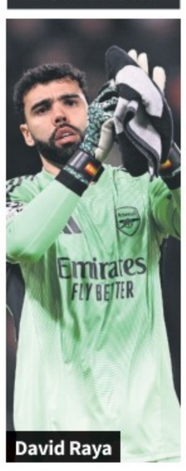
"I would really like to do more just within grassroots chess in India," says Wait. "And we would like to work on getting chess into schools and education."

GAME THEORY

Shot-stoppers in Premier League 2025-26

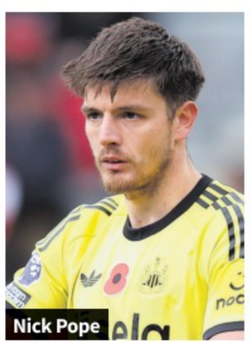
We take a look at how often goalkeepers in England's top flight have saved shots on target and kept clean sheets so far this season.

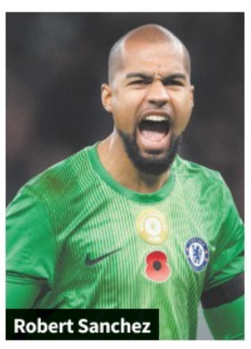
Goalkeeper	Club	Games	Shots on target faced	Saves	Save %	Clean sheets	Clean sheet %
David Raya	Arsenal	11	21	16	76.2	7	63.6
Dean Henderson	Palace	11	34	25	76.5	5	45.5
Nick Pope	Newcastle	11	47	36	74.5	5	45.5
Robert Sanchez	Chelsea	11	26	17	65.4	5	45.5
Gianluigi Donnarumma	Man. City	8	18	14	77.8	4	50.0
Dorde Petrovic	Bournemouth	11	53	35	67.9	4	36.4
Robin Roefs	Sunderland	11	48	37	79.2	4	36.4
Guglielmo Vicario	Tottenham	11	44	34	77.3	4	36.4
Emiliano Martinez	Aston Villa	9	26	18	73.1	3	33.3
Jordan Pickford	Everton	11	42	28	71.4	3	27.3
Alisson	Liverpool	6	16	9	56.3	2	33.3
Martin Dubravka	Burnley	11	64	45	70.3	2	18.2
Caoimhin Kelleher	Brentford	11	39	23	59.0	2	18.2
Bernd Leno	Fulham	11	48	33	70.8	2	18.2
Lucas Perri	Leeds United	6	24	12	58.3	2	33.3
Bart Verbruggen	Brighton	11	38	25	63.2	2	18.2
Senne Lammens	Man. Utd	5	21	14	66.7	1	20.0
Giorgi Mamardashvili	Liverpool	5	27	16	66.7	1	20.0
Alphonse Areola	West Ham	7	36	24	69.4	0	0
Altay Bayindir	Man. Utd	6	24	13	54.2	0	0
Karl Darlow	Leeds	5	20	13	60.0	0	0
Sam Johnstone	Wolves	7	36	24	61.1	0	0
Matz Sels	N. Forest	11	57	37	70.2	0	0

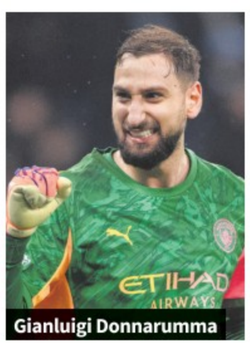


David Raya

Dean Henderson


Nick Pope


Robert Sanchez



Gianluigi Donnarumma

MINIMUM 5 GAMES PLAYED | SOURCE: FBREF.COM

PICTURE THIS

GETTY IMAGES

Gridiron mania

This photograph — from this month's game between Clemson Tigers and Florida State Seminoles at Memorial Stadium in South Carolina — offers a sense of the craze that surrounds college gridiron in the USA.

In some parts of America, particularly the south and midwest, the college game is more popular than professional football and was once viewed as more prestigious.

The games attract large crowds — several stadiums seat more than 100,000.

The matchday experience includes proud traditions, razzmatazz and revelry.

The 2024 NCAA season reportedly drew more than 21 million fans, averaging 64,000 per game.

Given such a following, it's no surprise that the business of college football is considerable. It is estimated to bring in well in excess of a billion dollars a year.

College football occupies a special space in American sport. In the absence of official minor league farm organisations, gridiron played by student athletes is considered American football's second tier, one step below the NFL.

Indeed, a large majority of NFL professionals graduate from college football.

Expert committee favours ban on bike taxis to continue

'They violate the Motor Vehicles Act, pose safety risks to both riders and passengers, and burden transportation network'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

An expert panel constituted by the Karnataka government following a High Court directive has advised that private two-wheelers may continue to be used for app-based delivery services, but has firmly opposed legalising bike taxis.

The committee stated that bike taxis violate the Motor Vehicles Act, pose safety risks to both riders and passengers, and could further burden Bengaluru's already stressed transportation network.

The committee suggests tightening enforcement of current regulations and guiding riders towards legitimate gig-economy opportunities in delivery and service sectors. FILE PHOTO

The panel, chaired by Karnataka Transport Secretary N.V. Prasad, has stated, "Bike taxis, though being claimed by the aggregators for their affordability, are, in reality, a disastrous blight on the city's already overstressed transport ecosystem. These services, far from offering any true solution to the city's mobility crisis, are exacerbating the very problems they purport to solve. In stark contrast to the claims of convenience and cost effectiveness, bike taxis serve only to deepen the city's legal and infrastructural woes, contributing to a burgeoning cycle of congestion, safety hazards, and environmental degradation."

The report added that a closer inspection of the fare disparity between bike taxis and the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) exposes the glaring fallacy behind the claim that bike taxis offer a more economical option.

"While the cost of a 2-km ride on a bike taxi starts at approximately ₹48 and increases as per demand in time of day, the same journey on a BMTC bus starts at a minimum fare of ₹6 and ₹32 for a full-length journey of up to 25 to 30 km," the report added.

Delivery services

Meanwhile, the report has clearly differentiated delivery services from passenger transport. The report stated that platforms like food delivery services transport goods, not passengers. "Goods can be transported by walking, bicycles or private two-wheelers, keeping delivery work within the realm of general commerce," it stated.

It also notes that operating without proper permits and insurance puts both riders and passengers at financial and safety risk. Rather than framing new rules for bike taxis, the panel suggests tightening enforcement of current regulations and guiding riders towards legitimate gig-economy opportunities in delivery and service sectors under the Karnataka Platform-Based Gig Workers Act.

Meanwhile, bike-taxi drivers in Karnataka have written to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and Minister for Transport Ramalinga Reddy, requesting a personal hearing before the government takes a final call on the proposed ban.

The Namma Bike Taxi Association, representing thousands of drivers in Bengaluru and nearby districts, has written to the government stating that they were never consulted before the State committee submitted its report to the High Court on November 16.

"The report, which recommends continuing the ban, has been criticised by drivers, industry associations, and policy experts for being one-sided and disconnected from reality," a release from the association stated.

The association said that more than 1.5 lakh drivers have lost their livelihoods since the suspension of bike-taxi services and that many were unable to find alternative income sources.

HC notice to State on plea questioning allocation of Jnana Bharathi campus

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Friday ordered issue of notice to the State government on a PIL petition which has questioned allotment or leasing out the lands within the Jnana Bharathi campus of Bangalore University (BU) to various public and autonomous institutions for establishing their offices.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru and Justice C.M. Poonacha passed the order on the petition filed by Swayam Jagruti Seva Ttrust, Mudalapalya, Bengaluru.

The petitioner has also questioned the recent permission granted for felling several trees for the construction of building for UGC's PM-USHA project. K. MURALI KUMAR

Various bodies

The petitioner has pointed out that lands were allocated in favour of the University Grants Commission (UGC), Inter University Center For Yogic-Science, Central University Of Karnataka, Central Board Of Secondary, Council Of Architecture, National Assessment and Accreditation Council, University Of Visvesvaraya College Of Engineering, and National Law School Of India University. The petitioner has sought a direction to the institutions, to whom the lands were allocated, not to cut any tree for construction work and not to damage the ecological biodiversity on the campus.

Lay restrictions

A direction has also been sought to the State authorities to lay down restrictions on cutting down trees on the campus and for the construction of multi-storeyed buildings in place of existing buildings instead of utilising additional lands for new constructions. It has been contended in the petition that instead of using ecologically sensitive areas for infrastructure development within the campus, the authorities should use about 35 acres of the land, which was part of the lands of the campus and was recently recovered from the encroachers, for the BU and other institutions.

UGC's PM-USHA project

The petitioner has also questioned the recent permission granted for felling several trees for the construction of building for UGC's PM-USHA (Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan) project.

Man arrested on charge of burglary

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Whitefield police cracked a burglary case in an hour after the incident was reported.

On November 14, around 1.30 p.m., a resident of Pattandur Agrahara left home for work and returned by 3 p.m. only to find that the asbestos sheet roof of his house was damaged and his house burgled. He then alerted the police, who rushed to the spot and launched a probe.

Soon, they detained a man reportedly loitering around in a suspicious way trying to avoid the police nakabandi near a bakery in Pattandur Agrahara. Upon interrogation, he reportedly confessed to the crime.

A resident of the same area, the accused had hidden the stolen valuables in a nearby place. The police immediately recovered the stolen items, including ₹9.3 lakh worth 72 gm of gold ornaments, 172 gm of silver articles, and ₹1 lakh in cash.

Man held for stealing laptops from PGs

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Police have arrested a man who stole laptops and mobile phones from Paying Guest (PG) accommodations in the city.

With this arrest, the police have claimed to have cracked 15 such cases.

Following a complaint by a student who lost her laptop from a PG accommodation on Bannerghatta Road, the police launched a probe and detained a man who was trying to sell multiple laptops in S.S. Palya.

He reportedly confessed that he had stolen laptops and mobile phones from PGs for the past several months. The police have recovered 20 laptops from him, and they have identified the owners of 15 of them.

The items were returned back to those owners.

Man accused of cheating divorced and widowed women found dead

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A man, who was accused of cheating divorced and widowed women, was reportedly found dead at his residence in Chintamani on Friday, a day after five women came forward and lodged a complaint against him.

The deceased has been identified as C.M. Girish, who also went by the name Sai Sudeep. He allegedly targeted divorced or widowed women on Facebook and other matrimonial websites, befriended them, and promised marriage. He allegedly got into physical relationships with them, recorded their intimate moments, and used to blackmail them for money.

Five women, who reportedly fell victim, came forward and lodged a complaint with the Chikkaballapur Women's Police Station on Thursday. The victims were from Nandagudi, Chickballapur, Bangarpet, and Bengaluru. He had allegedly blackmailed them and fleeced them of at least ₹30 lakh and gold jewellery.

The accused was found dead at his residence on Friday. Sources said that he had attempted to end his life a month ago as well and was treated for the same.

(Those having suicidal tendencies can seek help from Arogya Sahayavani Ph: 104.)

KIA becomes India's first airport to achieve Level 3 Accessibility Enhancement Accreditation

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) has become the first airport in India to be awarded Level 3 in the Accessibility Enhancement Accreditation (AEA) programme by the Airports Council International (ACI).

The KIA is also among the few globally to employ Persons with Disabilities in frontline customer service roles, says BIAL. FILE PHOTO

The Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), the airport operator, said, "This recognition reflects its steadfast commitment to inclusion, accessibility, and delivering an equitable travel experience for every passenger."

"Accessibility and inclusion are integral to the BIAL's long-term vision of creating a barrier free, dignified, and empathetic travel experience for all. Guided by its Customer First philosophy, the KIA has steadily advanced from Level 1 (December 2024) to Level 3 (November 2025), within less than a year, demonstrating leadership and accountability in driving inclusive transformation," the BIAL said.

Under its 'B-Included' initiative, the BIAL has introduced a wide range of accessible facilities, digital tools, and inclusive services to ensure that accessibility is woven into every aspect of the airport experience.

The BIAL said that the KIA was also among the few globally to employ Persons with Disabilities in frontline customer service roles. "Advancing from Level 1 to Level 3 in less than a year speaks about the passion and dedication of our teams," Hari Marar, Managing Director & CEO, BIAL, said.

The BIAL said its vision for accessibility has extended beyond physical infrastructure to encompass digital inclusivity and cultural awareness.

7,857 complimentary snack boxes distributed to Flybus passengers so far

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

Passengers travelling on the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation's (KSRTC) Flybus services have welcomed the corporation's newly introduced initiative to distribute complimentary snack boxes featuring Nandini products.

Launched on November 15, the KSRTC officials said that 7,857 snack boxes have been distributed to passengers so far. The snack box has been designed in-house by the KSRTC.

According to the corporation, the initiative aims to offer travellers a flight-like experience. The KSRTC is buying the snack kit for ₹56.78 a box and is distributing it to passengers at no cost to give them a flight-like experience.

The snack box contains a water bottle, a carton of flavoured milk, cookies, a small cake, and a packet of 'kodubale'. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Fathaheen Misbah, who recently travelled on a Flybus service, particularly praised its design. "The customised box includes a QR code linking to the KSRTC website, a direct link to download the KSRTC Awatar app, and a small but useful map showing Flybus and premium bus connectivity across Karnataka and other parts of the country," she added.

Diwakar A., another commuter, said, "I liked the coconut cookies in the kit and intend to purchase them again from a nearby Nandini outlet."

Manoj Kumar, who regularly travels between Bengaluru and Mangaluru on the Flybus service, said, "The snack box concept was impressive, and it's better than what many economy airlines offer, its creative packaging made the experience even better."

The snack box contains a water bottle, a carton of flavoured milk, cookies, a small cake, and a packet of 'kodubale'.

Flight-like experience

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Minister for Transport Ramalinga Reddy said that the idea stemmed from requests from passengers for light refreshments during the journey. "We received demands from passengers that something should be given to eat. So we thought of offering Nandini products in a complimentary snack box. The intention is to create a flight-like experience once they exit the airport and board our buses," he said.

Akram Pasha, Managing Director, KSRTC, told *The Hindu* that the initiative enhances the KSRTC's premium branding. "It offers a pre-flight and post-flight experience with a branded, customised box that elevates brand value, fulfils public demand, and adds a surprise delight element. It combines hygienically packed snacks with enhanced comfort and luxury travel," he said.

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Enumerators yet to be paid for caste survey work

The enumerators were assured of a fixed amount of ₹5,000, along with additional amount for every household surveyed; on average, each enumerator covered 150 to 200 households

Rishita Khanna
BENGALURU

The Greater Bengaluru Authority officials involved in the process say the delay is due to the ongoing reconciliation of attendance and household counts. FILE PHOTO

Weeks after Karnataka wrapped up its massive Social and Educational Survey on October 31, thousands of enumerators across Bengaluru said they were still waiting for the payments they were promised after completing one of the State's most tightly monitored data-collection drives.

The enumerators were assured of a fixed amount of ₹5,000, along with additional amount for every household surveyed. On average, each enumerator covered 150 to 200 households. As per the payment structure, they were to receive ₹50 for houses surveyed with two members and ₹100 for households with more than two members, amounting to roughly ₹15,000 to ₹23,000 an enumerator.

However, the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) officials involved in the process said the delay was due to the ongoing reconciliation of attendance and household counts. Bengaluru alone had an estimated 18,000 to 20,000 enumerators, according to officials.

"Many did not report regularly, some turned up only for a few days, and a significant number - school teachers had to be relieved once schools reopened. So, calculating the final payable amount is taking time," an official said.

Everything is timestamped and mapped, and it is surprising that verification is taking so long, says an enumerator from the Higher Education Department

In the case of districts, the officials said the funds have already been released to the respective Deputy Commissioners, who have in turn been instructed to pay enumerators directly. But in Bengaluru, although bank account details of enumerators are collected and verified already, payment has not yet been made.

Officials from the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes said that ₹23.87 crore has already been released, and nothing was pending from their end. The enumerators argued that all attendance and survey numbers were logged daily on the mobile app used throughout the exercise. "Officials say they are still counting attendance and houses covered, but these were updated on the app every single day.

Whenever there were glitches, we reported it and the issue was fixed immediately. If everything was updated regularly, what exactly are they re-checking now?" asked a Bescom meter reader deployed as an enumerator.

The enumerators questioned why a survey that relied entirely on digital attendance, GPS tagging and real-time data uploads is facing longer delays than older, paper-based exercises. "This was the most technology-driven survey many of us have worked on. Everything was timestamped and mapped. It is surprising that verification is taking so long," an enumerator from the Higher Education department said.

They also noted the personal expenses they incurred while on duty. "We requested several times that at least part of our travel or service costs be reimbursed, but that was not considered.

Many of us had to buy power banks, and instead of taking the bus to our regular jobs, we used our bikes and paid for petrol for over a month.

If authorities cannot reimburse expenses, the least they can do is pay on time or tell us how long we are expected to wait," Ravi S., an enumerator, who was posted in Maruthi Sevanagar, said.

Utility bills go up after meter readers engaged in survey work

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Households across the city have been hit with unusually high electricity and water bills this month and, in many cases, double the usual amount and the reason traces back to the recently concluded Social and Educational Survey.

With hundreds of the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) and Bescom meter readers diverted for nearly a month to work as enumerators, routine meter checks were disrupted, leaving billing cycles dependent on estimated readings.

With their routine duties paused for more than a month, both utilities were relying on provisional or average-based billing.

" What shows up on paper as this month's units is actually a combined total of whatever was used during the period when readings were not taken. For example, a family that normally pays around ₹600 for water and ₹800 for electricity ended up receiving bills of ₹1,500 to ₹2,000 or more because unbilled usage was captured in a single cycle," Mahesh B., a BWSSB employee said.

A senior official in the Greater Bengaluru Authority said when such a large number of staff are drawn into a State-wide survey, the effect on other services is inevitable," the official said.

High Court fixes Dec. 7 for holding elections to KSCA

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Friday set aside the notification issued by the Electoral Officer (EO) postponing the elections to the managing committee of the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) and ordered holding elections on December 7 by modifying the calender for elections, and requested Subash B. Adi, a former judge of the court, to supervise the elections.

Justice Suraj Govindaraj passed the order while allowing the petitions filed by the KSCA and B.K. Ravi, one of the members of the KSCA's managing committee.

What petitioners say

The petitioners had questioned the communication issued by the EO on November 17 stating that elections, scheduled for November 30, had been postponed to December 30 by stating that 'elections cannot be conducted at this stage without removing doubts among members' related to the KSCA's by-laws.

Absence of elected body

However, the petitioners have contended that delay in conduct of elections would impact the cricket players from Karnataka as they would not be considered for various tournaments in the absence of duly elected body for the association.

Consent

As petitioners and other intervening members of the KSCA, some of whom had approached the civil court on issues related to by-laws, have consented that elections could be held as early as possible, and agreed to the court's suggestion for the conduct of elections on December 7. Even the advocate, representing the EO, told the court that the EO is ready to hold elections on December 7. Following this, the court quashed the EO's November 17 communication of postponing the elections, and modified the calender of events by sustaining the already received nominations for various positions.

Timeline

As per the court order, scrutiny of already filed nomination papers would be held on November 24 between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.; list of valid candidates would be announced on November 24 before 6 p.m.; time for withdrawal of candidature on November 26 before 3 p.m.; announcement of eligible/ contesting candidates on November 26 by 5 p.m., elections will be held on December 7 between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. followed by declaration of results.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Akshatha Arjun W/o Arjun Kumar P.S. do hereby solemnly state that prior to my marriage I was known as **K.T. AKSHATHA RAJ D/o THYAGARAJ K.S.** I further state that after my marriage I have changed my name as **AKSHATHA ARJUN W/o ARJUN KUMAR P.S.** and I will continue in my new name for all future purpose vide affidavit dated 21.11.2025 sworn to Notary.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Hemavathi K.B. W/o K.P.S. Bhushan do hereby solemnly state that, I have changed my name from **HEMAVATHI BHUSHAN** to **HEMAVATHI K.B.** and will continue in my new name for all future purpose vide affidavit dated 21.11.2025 sworn to Notary.

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly Owned Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)

BESCOM invites tender vide **Enquiry No. BESCOM/2025-26/ SE0388 Date: 21.11.2025** for Engaging technical manpower for GIS cell in BESCOM.

Bid documents available on **24.11.2025, 4.00PM onwards.**

The Tender can be obtained through KPPP Portal website: **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Aspiring Bidders need to register on KPPP portal. Further Bidders can take assistance with KPPP Helpdesk contact numbers (080-46010000, 080-68948777) or email at support@eprochelpdesk.com.

For Electricity related complaints call: 1912
Download BESCOM Mithra Mobile APP

Sd/-
General Manager, (ICT&MIS), BESCOM, 5th Floor, Belaku Bhavana, K. R. Circle, Bengaluru-560001.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-(IREPS) Tender Notice No. 38 UBL 2025-26
Dated : 13-11-2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

SL	Item of work	Approx. Value
1	**Hubballi Division:** Augmentation of Mechanized Laundry at (UBL) Hubballi Railway Station.	Rs. 2,51,18,618/-
2	**Hubballi Division:** **Sub Work - I:-** Upgradation of open drains at Bada Vinobhanagar, Hubballi. **Sub Work - II :-** Improvements to compound wall at Rail Nagar Colony, Hubballi (Balance Work), **Sub Work-III:-** Proposed construction of new Assistant Divisional Engineer office at Gadag Road, Hubballi, **Sub Work-IV:-** Proposed construction of S & T store shed, Hubballi	Rs. 2,29,12,703/-
3	**Hubballi Division:** Proposed additional loopline (Pro.Rd-5)at Ginigera Station.	Rs. 1,43,16,342/-

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 12-12-2025
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Engineer/Co-Ordination Hubballi
PUB/678/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the General Public that my Client is entered into an agreement to purchase an immoveable property being Residential House property which is more fully described in the Schedule hereunder from **MR. ANTHONY CLEMENT ALIAS P. ANTHONY CLEMENT,** Aged about 56 years, S/o Mr. Anthony Patrick, residing at # 20, 2nd Main Road, Near Corporation Bank (now Bank of Baroda) K.Nanjappa Reddy Layout, V Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru-560034. If any person/s has/have any right, title, interest or claim on the below mentioned Schedule Property, they may file their objections with the undersigned along with documentary proof **WITHIN 15 (FIFTEEN) DAYS** from the date of publication of this notice, failing which my Client will proceed to complete the sale transaction as the same is free from all encumbrances/claims. Any objections received thereafter shall not be entertained/ considered.

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immoveable residential House property constructed on the BDA Site bearing **No.121 (one hundred twenty one)** formed by the Bangalore Development Authority, **at Koramangala Layout, S.T.Bed, Bengaluru** and now comes within the old **BBMP ward No.68 and present BBMP Ward No.148** of Ejipura ward, presently known and identified as **"# 121, 3rd Cross, S.T.Bed, Koramangala, Bengaluru-560 034"** bearing New **e-Pid No.7106616905,** measuring East to West: **9.14 Meters or 30-0 feet** and North to South: **13.11 meters or 43-0' feet** totally measuring **119.84 Square Meters or 1290 Square feet** together with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded on the:-

East by : Property bearing No. 120
West by : Property bearing No. 122
North by : Property bearing No.110
South by : Road.

Consisting of RCC roofed building with **Ground, First and Second** floor **(triplex house)** house totally measuring **222.967296 Square meters** or **2399.998 Square feet** which is covered with granite flooring with all basic amenities.

(U.L.SOMAPPA) Advocate & Notary
 # 708/41, Upstairs, Sree Ramanjaneya Road Srinagar, Bangalore-560050.
(M) 94480 50108, 98806 14954
Bangalore Date : 22-11-2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client intends to purchase below mentioned Residential Schedule Property from its owners, **(1) MANJAPPA.K.H.,** and **(2) RANGANATHA.K.H.,** both are sons of **Haleshappa**, residents at No.65/1, Near Shanimahathma Temple, **Ranganathpura Kamakshipalya, BANGALORE – 79.**

If any person/s, Bank/s, Institution/s, Company/ Firm/s, etc., have got any objections for this sale transaction or claim on Schedule Property, the same may be informed to me along with supporting documents, within **7 days.** Otherwise, the SALE shall be completed without any reference or regard to any such purported claims or interests, which shall be deemed to have been waived off to an intent and purposes.

SCHEDULE

PROPERTY No.9, E-PID No.6255298013, 4TH MAIN ROAD, 5TH CROSS, RANGANATHAPURA, BANGALORE 560 079, in BBMP Ward No.103 – Kaveripura, AND the site area is measuring East to West : 20 feet, and North to South: 30 feet (formed in Sy.No.65/4, of Kamashipalya Village, Saneguruvanahalli Dhakhale Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk), and is bounded on **EAST BY : remaining Portion of Site No.9 of RAMESH.H., WEST BY : House of Thimmappa, NORTH BY : Property of K.Siddayya, and SOUTH BY : Road,** AND having AC Sheet Roofed House, with all the amenities.

H.G. RAJASHEKAR, Advocate,
No. 6, Tulasi Thota Road,
Balepet Cross, Bangalore – 560 053.
Phone: 080-41139955, 98446 39777,
& **Krishna S.R.**-99452 75991 (Purchaser)

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our client **Smt.Padma Devi W/o Sri.Pema Ram** and **Smt.Pista W/o Sri.Suresh Kumar** both are intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **Mr.Renju Chacko Varkey S/o V.C. Varkey** person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof on or before **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our clients shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing vacant site bearing No.8, e-PID No.2559708750, earlier Byatarayanapura City Municipal Katha No.18, situated at **Hennur village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk** presently under BBMP limits measuring East to West **30 feet;** North to South **40 feet,** in all measuring a total extent of **1200 square feet** coming and bounded on the:

East by : Property bearing No.7, West by : property. bearing No.8/1, North by : Private property, South by: Road.

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants Bangalore-43
M : 9845846428, 9108784843, 080-48658774
E- Mail: rvlaw.76@gmail.com

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-2, BENGALURU
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bengaluru - 560 001, Ph: 080-22244324, Fax : 080 22244325/326

CANCELATION OF E- AUCTION SALE

RC No. 1726/2018 in OA No.486/2017
KARNATAKA GRAMEENA BANK, Tiptur Branch,Tumkur District.
....Certificate Holder Bank
V/s
SRI M. C. RAVEESH & OTHERS **....Certificate Debtor**

It is to inform all the concerned that, CH Bank filed a Memo with an affidavit vide DC No. 18289/2025 wherein it is stated that after issuance of the sale notice, the CD's approched them and settled the account and it stands closed in their Books on 20.11.2025 .

In view of the above, the online e- auction sale scheduled to be held on **10.12.2025** in the above matter on the website of M/s. Forceclouserindia.com is hereby cancelled. Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal at Bengaluru on the 21.11.2025.

Sd/- Recovery Officer-2
DRT-2, Bengaluru

Government of Karnataka
(Infrastructure Development and Port and Inland Water Transport Department)
Karnataka Maritime Board
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PORT DIVISION, BAITKHOL, KARWAR, UTTAR KANNADA-581302
Phone: 08382-229672 Email: eepdkwr4@gmail.com
NO.EE/PDK/TND/2025-26/ 757 **Date: 20-11-2025**

Invitation for tenders (IFT) Re-Tender Notification

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, **"DREDGING IN GANGAVALI RIVER AT SHIRUR LANDSLIDE AREA IN ANKOLA TALUKA OF UTTAARAKANNADA DISTRICT, KARNATAKA STATE (Indent No: IDD/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT142/CALL-4)** (Tender Amount Rs.156.21 Lakhs) Tender is invited in E-Procurement to execute the service. To participate in E-Procurement and for more information may be obtained in **(http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** website. Last date for clarification and queries for tender is **01-12-2025 at 4.00 PM** and Last date for Tender Submission is **02-12-2025 at 5.00 PM.** For further extension refer above mentioned website. No separate paper notification will be issued.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Port Division, Karwar

DIPR/ADK/KSMCA/748/25-26 Dt.21.11.2025

ಪುರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಕೋನಪ್ಪನ ಅಗ್ರಹಾರ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ – 560100.
ಇ–ಮೇಲ್: ka.konappanaagrahara.tmc@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಪು.ಕಾ.ಕೋ/ಆ.ಶಾ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/ಪ.ಆರ್/5/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 20–11–2025

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

2025–26 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಪುರಸಭಾ ನಿಧಿಯಡಿ ಕೈಗೊಂಡಿರುವ ಹೆಲ್ಪರ್, ಡ್ರೈವರ್ ಮತ್ತು ಡ್ರೈವರ್ ಕಮ್ ಆಪರೇಟರ್ ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಒದಗಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: **DMA/2025-26/SE6638,** ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ: **ರೂ. 62.06 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳನ್ನು** ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **28–11–2025 ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ 17.00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ,** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **29–11–2025 ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ 17.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.** ಹಾಗೆಯೇ **ಪುರಸಭಾ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬೀದಿ ನಾಯಿಗಳನ್ನು ಹಿಡಿದು ಸಂತಾನಹರಣ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ, ಲಸಿಕೆ ನೀಡುವ** ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: **DMA/2025-26/SE6643,** ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ: **ರೂ. 9.96 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳನ್ನು** ಮತ್ತು **ಪುರಸಭಾ ಕಚೇರಿ ಕೆಲಸಕ್ಕೆ ಒಂದು ಕಾರನ್ನು ಬಾಡಿಗೆ** ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಒದಗಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: **DMA/2025-26/SE6676,** ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ: **ರೂ. 4.41** ಲಕ್ಷಗಳನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **06–12–2025 ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ 17.00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ,** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **08–12–2025 ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ 17.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.** ಯಾವುದೇ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ಮುಂದೂಡಿಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ. ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು ಯಾವುದೇ ವಾರ್ತ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕಛೇರಿಯ **ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಶಾಖೆಯಿಂದ** ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/– ಆಡಳಿತಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು **ಸಹಿ/– ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು**
ಪುರಸಭೆ, ಕೋನಪ್ಪನ ಅಗ್ರಹಾರ. **ಪುರಸಭೆ, ಕೋನಪ್ಪನ ಅಗ್ರಹಾರ.**

ಪುಸಾಸಂ೨/ವಾ.ಪ್ರ/3954/ಆಡ್ಟರ್ಸ್/2025–26

Uttar Pradesh Medical Supplies Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of Uttar Pradesh Undertaking)
GSTIN: 09AACCU2250P1ZZ CIN: U85310UP2018SGC102425

Tender Notice Invitation Date: 20-11-2025

Uttar Pradesh Medical Supplies Corporation Limited, Lucknow invites tenders on GeM Portal from eligible and qualified Manufacturer/Importer/Authorized Agent for supply of **following Medical Equipment's.** The schedules of Tendering activities are as here under:

Sr. No.	Tender Ref. No. & Date	Items Name	Date & Time of Pre-Bid Meeting	Last Date & Submission of Online Bids	Date & Time of Opening of Technical Bids
1	GEM/2025/B/6905002 Dated: 18-11-2025	Anaesthesia Workstation	27/11/2025 at 3:00 PM in Conference Hall of UPMSCL, Lucknow.	13/12/2025 up to 16:00 PM	13/12/2025 at 16:30 PM
2	GEM/2025/B/6905676 Dated: 18-11-2025	C-Arm Fluoroscope X-Ray Machine	27/11/2025 at 4:00 PM in Conference Hall of UPMSCL, Lucknow.	13/12/2025 up to 17:00 PM	13/12/2025 at 17:30 PM
3	GEM/2025/B/6906501 Dated: 18-11-2025	Electrocautery Machine	28/11/2025 at 3:00 PM in Conference Hall of UPMSCL, Lucknow.	13/12/2025 up to 20:00 PM	13/12/2025 at 20:30 PM
4	GEM/2025/B/6908035 Dated: 19-11-2025	Mortuary Cabinet	28/11/2025 at 2:00 PM in Conference Hall of UPMSCL, Lucknow.	15/12/2025 up to 18:00 PM	15/12/2025 at 18:30 PM
5	GEM/2025/B/6908320 Dated: 19-11-2025	Orthopedic Battery Operated Drill System	28/11/2025 at 4:00 PM in Conference Hall of UPMSCL, Lucknow.	15/12/2025 up to 18:00 PM	15/12/2025 at 18:30 PM
6	GEM/2025/B/6908778 Dated: 19-11-2025	Laparoscopic Surgery System	01/12/2025 at 3:00 PM in Conference Hall of UPMSCL, Lucknow.	15/12/2025 up to 18:00 PM	15/12/2025 at 18:30 PM
7	GEM/2025/B/6912043 Dated: 20-11-2025	Non-Contact Tonometer	01/12/2025 at 3:30 PM in Conference Hall of UPMSCL, Lucknow.	15/12/2025 up to 11:00 PM	15/12/2025 at 11:30 PM
8	GEM/2025/B/6912269 Dated: 20-11-2025	Defibrillator	01/12/2025 at 4:00 PM in Conference Hall of UPMSCL, Lucknow.	15/12/2025 up to 12:00 PM	15/12/2025 at 12:30 PM
9	GEM/2025/B/6912601 Dated: 20-11-2025	500 mA X-Ray Machine	01/12/2025 at 4:00 PM in Conference Hall of UPMSCL, Lucknow.	15/12/2025 up to 14:00 PM	15/12/2025 at 14:30 PM

The details of tender notice are given on GeM Portal & UPMSCL website www.upmsc.in. Kindly check GeM Portal & UPMSCL website for any detail & updates.

Managing Director, UPMSCL
Department of Medical Health & Family Welfare, Uttar Pradesh

BHUBANESWAR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
AKASH SHOVA BUILDING, Pt. J.N.MARG, BHUBANESWAR-751001
PABX No.0674-2392801/0998/6437, FAX No.0674-2390633/085; Visit us at: http://www.bda.gov.in/

Invitation For Bids - Bid Identification No.493/EM/BDA/2025-26 Date: 19/11/2025

Engineer Member, BDA on behalf of Bhubaneswar Development Authority, Bhubaneswar invites percentage rate bids in Double Cover System in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for civil works as mentioned below:

1.	Nature of works	: Construction of Proposed Vertical extension (Third Floor) of K-7 Commercial Complex at Kalinga Nagar, Bhubaneswar
2.	Total No. of works	: 01 (one) No.
3.	Amount put to tender	: Rs.5,52,58,555.00
4.	Class of Contractor	: 'A' Class (MV licence for E.I)
5.	Period of Completion	: 180 (One Hundred Eighty) Days
6.	Cost of Bid Documents	: Rs.10000.00 + 18% GST= Rs.11800.00 (Online transfer by the last date & time for receipt of bids)
7.	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	: 1% of estimated cost put to tender. (Online transfer by the last date & time for receipt of bids)
8.	Availability of Tender	: From 22.11.2025 to 5.30 PM of 11.12.2025 https://tendersodisha.gov.in.
9.	Date of opening of Tender	: Dt.12.12.2025 at 11.30 AM
10.	Place of opening of Tender	: O/o- Engineer Member, BDA, Bhubaneswar.

Further details can be seen from the website: **https://tendersodisha.gov.in.** Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

CAD-2412: **Engineer Member, BDA, Bhubaneswar.**

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR,
TEXT BOOK PRODUCTION & MARKETING,
KHARAVEL NAGAR, BHUBANESWAR - I.

Notice No: 7446 /TBPM **Date: 21.11.2025**

1st Corrigendum of the Tender Notice No.**7100/TBPM, dt.06.11.2025** against Printing and Binding of NT Books and Allied books for Academic Session 2026-27 is given below:

Pre-Bid Meeting regarding Printing Tender will be held on dt. 24.11.2025 at 11.30 AM in the Conference Hall of TBP&M. If any firm have any query regarding this Tender, may attend this meeting.

Read as:

"The last date/closing date of Bid submission is dt.05.12.2025 at 5.00 p.m. instead of dt.27.11.2025 at 5.00 pm.

"The last date for submission of FDR for EMD, Tender paper cost & inspection charges is dt.05.12.2025 at 5.00 p.m. instead of dt. 27.11.2025 at 5.00 pm.

"The date of opening of technical bid is dt.06.12.2025 at 11.30 AM instead of dt.28.11.2025 at 11.30 AM.

"In Important Instructions to the Tenderers for printing and binding of NT Books, at page No-15 of Clause No. 11(i) read the word "Bidder" instead of 'binding firm'.

In Important Instructions to the Tenderers for printing and binding of NT Books, at page No-15 of Clause No.11(n) read as "Self attested copy in own letter head as per Annexure-A" instead of 'Affidavit as per Annexure-A'.

In Important Instructions to the Tenderers for printing and binding of NT Books, at page No-15 of Clause No. 13 read as "The firm must submit the self-attested copy in own letter head as per Annexure-A instead of 'The firm must submit the affidavit as per Annexure-A'.

In Annexure- 'A', in first line, the word be read as `committed' instead of 'communicated'.

All other terms & conditions are remain unchanged.

n-196: Sd/- **Director, TBP&M, BBSR**

Directorate of Tourism, Government of Jharkhand
MDI Building, 2nd floor, HEC Campus, Dhurwa, Ranchi-04Tele Fax : 0651-2331828
Email: dirjhakhandtourism@gmail.com/ jtdcltd@gmail.com

Ref. No.:- 1152/2025 **Date :21/11/2025**

SHORT TENDER NOTICE

RFP for Selection of Agency for RFP For Selection of Agency for Netarhat Mahotsav (fair) fair at Netarhat, Latehar, Jharkhand(2nd Call)

The Jharkhand Tourism Development Corporation Limited (JTDCL), Government of Jharkhand (GoJ) undertaking intends to publish RFP for **Selection of Agency for RFP For Selection of Agency for Netarhat Mahotsav (fair) fair at Netarhat, Latehar, Jharkhand(2nd Call)**

The detailed RFP document can be downloaded from the below mentioned website :

https://jtdcl.jharkhand.gov.in, and submit their offline Applications.

The applications Submission Due date is on or before **06/12/2025 at 1700 hours** and the date of opening of the tender on **08/12/2025 at 1.30 Pm**. All subsequent notifications, changes and amendments will be posted only on the above website.

Sd/-
Deputy Director

PR 366784 Tourism, Art Culture Sports And Youth Affairs (25-26)D

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'Use drugs like Ozempic under supervision and with caution'

The first session of *The Hindu* Lit for Life Dialogue revolved around Ozempic, its use and abuse

Ruth Dhanaraj
BENGALURU

It was an evening of insightful conversations and stimulating exchange of ideas at *The Hindu*'s Lit for Life Dialogue 2025, which witnessed a packed auditorium at the Museum of Art and Photography (MAP) in Bengaluru on Friday.

Following the opening remarks by Suresh Balakrishna, Chief Revenue Officer, *The Hindu* Group, the first session saw Ambrish Mithal and Shivam Vij, authors of *The Weight Loss Revolution*, in conversation with fitness expert Shwetambari Shetty.

They discussed the issue of drugs such as Ozempic, its uses, abuse, and more.

According to Dr. Ambrish, though Ozempic is used to help overweight patients, especially those who are obese and diabetic, it is unfortunately also being misused as a quick fix to lose weight. The hormones controlling appetite and satiety are altered with the use of this drug, curbing one's cravings, which is revolutionary.

But a sensible person should take Ozempic under the advise of a doctor and be prepared for minor side effects, he warned. "The best results are seen among those who exercise regularly and follow diets prescribed by experts," said the doctor.

(From left): Endocrinologist Ambrish Mithal, former journalist Shivam Vij, and fitness expert Shwetambari Shetty in a conversation during *The Hindu* Lit for Life Dialogue, at the Museum of Art and Photography, in Bengaluru on Friday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Role of diet and exercise

Mr. Vij underlined how diet and exercise are vital to one's health and how medication was not to be used as a substitute. "The dictionary definition of disease is something that prevents normal bodily function, therefore obesity fits the bill," said the former journalist, who suffered from sleep apnea, knee issues, and other ailments pertaining to his weight, making him an ideal candidate for the drug.

> Though Ozempic is used to help overweight patients, especially those who are obese and diabetic, it is unfortunately also being misused as a quick fix to lose weight
>
> **AMBRISH MITHAL**
> Endocrinologist

He added that viewing obesity as a disease and not the result of unfettered cravings took away from the stigma attached to Ozempic use. Mr. Vij's journey of recovery and use of Ozempic was under the supervision of Dr. Ambrish who said much like every other medicine administered for blood pressure or cholesterol, Ozempic too, has to be a lifelong prescription with dosage gradually tapered to adjust to a person's health.

Repercussions

The endocrinologist said the minimum period for such a weaning would be at least two years and unregulated or short-term use of the drug would have repercussions in the long run.

'Lifestyle shift'

"A lifestyle shift with food and exercise is mandatory with the use of Ozempic in one's weight loss journey; it can't be momentary," said Ms. Shetty, emphasising the need for strength training as part of one's lifestyle. This was reiterated by Dr. Ambrish, who added it had become part of the medical prescription with regard to the treatment for weight loss.

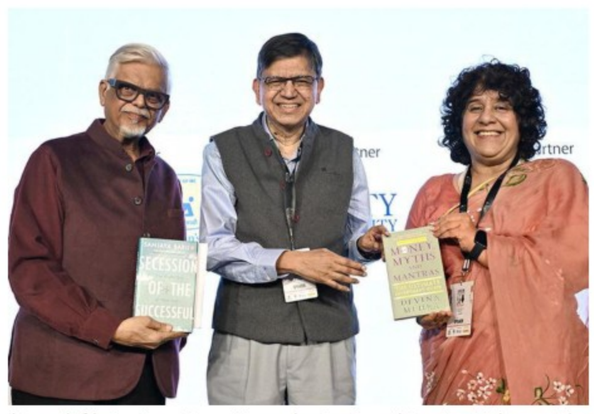
Throughout the session, the panelists stressed Ozempic should be viewed as a support in one's weight loss programme for health that included high protein and fibre, and exercise.

The event was supported by Amity University (Associate Partner) and Crossword (Bookstore Partner).

More than wealth migration, India's intellectual migration is a serious concern, say experts

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

India is staring at two serious challenges at a time: the migration of its wealth and migration of its highly talented human resources, and the irony is this is happening at a time when the country is touted to be the best place to be, to live, to work, and to invest, said eminent panelists who spoke at the session on 'The Flight of Wealth' as part of the Bengaluru editon of Lit for Life Dialogue.


(From left): Sanjaya Baru, Narendar Pani, and Devina Mehra at *The Hindu* Lit for Life Dialogue in Bengaluru on Friday. K. MURALI KUMAR

FDI scenario

Setting the context, economist, writer and former editor Narendar Pani said, "Outward Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) by Indians increased by more than $11 billion in 2020-21 to over $28 billion in 2024-25. During the same period, the FDI to India declined from nearly $55 billion to just a little over $29 billion. As a result, the net FDI to India in 2024-25 was less than $1 billion."

"If these trends continue, India will become a net exporter of capital. At a time when domestic savings are under pressure where is investment is going to come from?" wondered Dr. Pani.

Adding to the crisis, India's younger generation from business families want to cash out and manage financial investments from India or from overseas as they want to be free from the trouble of running businesses, and this trend has been adversely impacting the growth of private investments in the country, explained Devina Mehra, author of *Money, Myths and Mantras: The Ultimate Investment Guide,* and co-founder of First Global, a firm that tracks stocks across major markets. "Most prominent Indians who say India is the best place to be have their children studying or working somewhere overseas," she said, adding that India is not focused on attracting Indians working and living outside of India back to the country.

Types of migration

Sanjaya Baru, the author of the *Secession of the Successful: The Flight Out of New India*, said that during 1950s, India's poor migrated to Europe and other countries seeking labour, including on plantations in Fiji and Mauritius, and in 1970, India saw huge migration to the Gulf. These two migrations triggered remittance to the country.

However, the migration of wealth and human resources that has been happening in the last 20 years and still continuing has been hurting the country and its economy, said Mr. Baru, also former editor, political commentator, and Media Advisor to former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. Ms. Mehra said India also exported its people to stressful and war-torn areas such as Israel.

"We started IITs in the 1950s and 60s. How did Satya Nadella and Sundar Pichai reach CEO cabins of American firms (Microsoft and Google respectively)? We are letting our demographic dividend dissipate now," she argued.

Mr. Baru said thousands of highly talented, professionally qualified Indians have left this country from places like Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Chennai, and Pune, but the last time that economists were concerned about this flight of human capital was in the 1970s, when economist Jagdish Bhagwati spoke about brain drain.

"I found it very fascinating and shocking that over the last 30 years, even when the numbers have skyrocketed, there is not a single systematic study," Mr. Baru said.

Changed policy

The United States changed its immigration policy in 1966, focused deliberately on getting Indian doctors and engineers into the U.S., and that was the beginning of the emigration of talented Indians, said Mr. Baru adding that perhaps President Donald Trump might have done something good by coming down heavily on immigration.

'Why is there peace between the classes in India?'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru witnessed a novel way of introducing a book to the readers in a one-man act- 'The New Laws of Manu: Why The Poor Don't Kill Us'.

At *The Hindu* Lit for Life Dialogue in the city on Friday, columnist, novelist, and screenwriter Manu Joseph regaled the audience with a one-man act while attempting to answer the question: Why is there peace between the classes in India despite the brazen inequality? The act is inspired and derived from his first foray into non-fiction, *Why The Poor Don't Kill Us*.

Swebert D'Silva dead

BENGALURU: Fr. Swebert D'Silva, 68, Pro-Chancellor of St. Joseph's University, Bengaluru, died here on Thursday, following a cardiac arrest.

Timings
BENGALURU

SATURDAY, NOV. 22	
RISE 06:21	SET 17:50
RISE 07:57	SET 19:23
SUNDAY, NOV. 23	
RISE 06:22	SET 17:50
RISE 08:49	SET 20:16
MONDAY, NOV. 24	
RISE 06:22	SET 17:50
RISE 09:40	SET 21:10

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	29	22
Mysuru	29	19
Bengaluru	29	19

Bengaluru Today
29°C The weather will be slight warm. Night will be slight cool. Short spell of light rain and thundershower is a chance.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
27°C Morning will be slight cool. Day will be comfortable. Night also will be slight cool. Chances of light rain and thundershower.

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Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru emphasises need to improve quality of arbitral awards

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Stating that rating of arbitral institutions inevitably depends upon the quality and efficiency with which awards are delivered, Vibhu Bakhru, Chief Justice of the High Court of Karnataka (HCK), on Friday emphasised the need for improving the quality of arbitral awards delivered in the Arbitration and Conciliation Centre (International and Domestic), Bengaluru.

Enhancing the quality of arbitral awards is the true measure of the arbitral institution, he said, speaking after inaugurating the Bengaluru ADR Week-2025, organised joined by the Arbitration and Conciliation Centre, the Karnataka Judicial Academy, the Bengaluru ADR Week Trust, and the Advocates' Association, Bengaluru. The Chief Justice requested the president and Board of Governors of the Arbitration and Conciliation Centre, which functions under the HCK, to look into how the quality of arbitral awards can be strengthened or enhanced.

One way to improve the quality of awards, the Chief Justice suggested, would be by appointing a Board to look into the draft arbitral awards, which are submitted 15 days prior their pronouncement, to identify any errors, to point to issues left out, examine whether the awards reads well, and so on. Though the board would not change the award, it would help improve the quality, he added. Stating that video-conferencing facilities will soon be available in all court halls, allowing for hybrid hearings in the Centre, Mr. Bakhru said with several major public sector units like Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited and Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited choosing Bengaluru as their preferred arbitration venue, Karnataka is firmly positioned as one of the leading institutional arbitration hubs in the country.

Justice D.K. Singh, a judge of the HCK and president of the Centre, said that the Centre will soon be able to offer better facility by expanding its physical infrastructure with the State government, in-principle, allocating 22,824 sq. ft of area, in addition to the existing 9,656 sq. ft of Khanija Bhavan where the Centre is functioning.

FIR alleging voter fraud in Mahadevapura

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Whitefield police have registered an FIR against unknown individuals over alleged voter fraud in Mahadevapura during the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. However, sources said that legal questions loom over the maintainability of the FIR. Y. Vinoda, 39, a resident of Whitefield and a voter in the Mahadevapura assembly constituency, lodged a complaint on November 19, making serious allegations that a large number of fake voters were added to electoral rolls in Mahadevapura and it is in the public domain..

Based on this complaint, the Whitefield police registered an FIR on November 19 under various sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and Representation of People's Act, 1951.

Kadalekai Parishe ends with estimated 12 lakh visitors; generates 105 tonnes of waste

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The historic Kadalekai Parishe, Bengaluru's iconic annual groundnut fair, concluded after five days with an estimated footfall of around 12 lakh visitors, according to Minister for Transport and Muzrai Ramalinga Reddy.

This year marked the first time the traditional nut festival was extended to five days.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Mr. Reddy said, "According to police estimates, about three lakh people visited on Friday alone, and nearly 12 lakh people attended over the five-day period. This year, the event was held for five days instead of the usual two."

This year marked the first time the traditional nut festival was extended to five days. FILE PHOTO

Cleaning drive

He added that with the festival ending on Friday, a massive cleaning drive would be taken up on Friday night and Saturday to clear the roads and temple surroundings.

"Daily cleaning was carried out during the event as well. To express our gratitude to all the agencies involved in making the event a success, we will hold a vote of thanks event on Monday for officials from various departments, including Greater Bengaluru Authority, Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage Board, Bescom, and the police," Mr. Reddy said. While the Kadlekai Parishe was expected as a clean and plastic-free event this year, the five-day festival, which concluded on November 21, generated around 105 tonnes of waste. This included 45 tonnes of wet waste, 40 tonnes of low-value plastic (LVP), and 20 tonnes of mixed waste.

> **'Nearly 12 lakh people attended over the five-day period. This year, the event was held for five days instead of the usual two'**

To uphold the event's eco-friendly goals, the Muzrai Department, in collaboration with NGOs, organised awareness campaigns urging shopkeepers and visitors to avoid plastic and use cloth bags instead.

Single-use plastics

However, the Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML) found visitors violating the rules and took strict action against single-use plastics, registering 205 cases and imposing fines totalling ₹65,000.

Bannerghatta Biological Park sees an increase in animal and bird numbers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bannerghatta Biological Park (BNP) this year has witnessed the births of several animals, which includes two tiger cubs, two jungle cat kittens, four lion cubs, and three gaur calves.

"From majestic big cats to thriving herbivores and vibrant bird species, each birth reflected the park's strengthened management practices, scientific care, and steady commitment to conservation breeding," BBP said.

On February 15, 2025, tigress Arunya gave birth to two cubs. This was followed by the birth of two jungle cat kittens on March 5. On May 30, lioness Savithri gave birth to a cub, and another lioness Sania birthed four cubs on June 11.

The aviary section also saw a vibrant breeding season in 2025 as several bird species produced healthy hatchlings, enriching the park's already diverse avian collection. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

BBP said that the herbivore section also experienced steady growth, with an increase in the park's gaur population after three calves were born on May 28, August 28, and October 6. "These successful births highlighted the effectiveness of enhanced nutrition plans and dedicated veterinary care in maintaining a strong and genetically diverse herd," BBP said.

It added that the aviary section also saw a vibrant breeding season in 2025 as several bird species produced healthy hatchlings, enriching the park's already diverse avian collection.

New arrivals included a painted stork chick on February 13, rose-ringed parakeet chicks on March 31 and April 3, a silver pheasant chick on April 6, sun conure chicks on August 3 and December 5, and rainbow lorikeet chicks on July 27.

"With continual habitat enhancements, specialised veterinary care, and the commitment of its staff, Bannerghatta Biological Park continues to play a vital role in safeguarding and nurturing India's wildlife for generations to come. With the growing wildlife family, citizens can adopt selected young animals under the animal adoption policy," BBP added.

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HOMES AND REAL ESTATE NEWS

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THE HINDU

COVER

Samujjwal Ghosh

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

How technology is rewriting India's land story

The country's oldest investment is being rewritten by digitisation, data, and accountability

For generations, land has been India's most enduring and sentimental investment, symbolising stability, legacy, and wealth creation. Yet, for many buyers, the path to that promise has been uneven, be it due to unclear titles, scattered records, opaque processes or inflated valuations and unreliable intermediaries that have kept confidence low. But what's changing today is how it's being perceived. Land is increasingly being viewed as a serious investment asset driven by better technology, greater transparency, and enhanced convenience and security for buyers.

Recent market readings echo this shift in trend: Colliers India (Q3 2025) reports $1.3 billion in institutional flows, up 11% year-on-year, with domestic investors forming about 60% of the total. Industry projections also suggest real estate could account for 14%-20% of India's GDP by 2047, a potential $10 trillion growth lever.

As digital processes simplify discovery, verification, and ownership, investors are looking beyond vertical development to the clarity and control that land offers. Once seen primarily as an emotional pursuit, land is now emerging as a structured, technology-enabled asset class that promises both trust and long-term value.

Shift in ground

India has been quietly building the skeleton for a more trustworthy land market, making records searchable, registration predictable, and boundaries visible. These reforms allow buyers to see the past of a land parcel, track the present of a transaction, and trust the future of a neighbourhood.

At the core lies the Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme (DILRMP). As of December 2023, over 95% of India's more than six lakh villages had computerised records, and two-thirds of the cadastral maps were digitised. Each parcel has been now assigned a 14-digit Land Parcel Identification Number (Bhu-Aadhaar) linking it to geo-coordinates and serving as a permanent "licence plate".

Oversight improved with the launch of MIS 4.0 in October 2024, which offers real-time tracking of digitisation progress.

The National Generic Document Registration System (NGDRS) enables buyers to complete e-KYC, calculate stamp duty, book slots, and receive certified deeds online, while automating updates to records instantly.

Developers now issue time-stamped digital disclosure packs and use escrow-linked digital payments that release funds only after verification.

Technology is also revolutionising due diligence. Platforms like ISRO's Bhuvan NextGen overlay cadastral maps with flood or corridor data. PropTech startups integrate this with legal and encroachment data, giving banks and buyers real-time risk scores. AI-driven pricing engines benchmark comparable sales across micromarkets, improving valuation accuracy

As per the Liases Foras Ayodhya Report 2025, land prices within four km of the Ram Mandir have risen by about 400% since 2020, reaching ₹12,600-₹15,500 per sq. ft., while circle rates rose 200% in key zones. Similar developments are occurring in Shirdi and Ujjain as a result of digitalised government records and connectivity. Transparent digital planning and equitable acquisition are creating new growth corridors in Maharashtra, as demonstrated by the proposed Nagpur-Goa Shaktipeeth Expressway (₹80,000 crore total, ₹20,000 crore for land).

The next frontier

As India's land ecosystem becomes digitally traceable, the next frontier lies in tokenisation – the conversion of physical land ownership into secure, fractional digital tokens. Tokenisation, which is based on Web 3.0 and blockchain technology, combines the liquidity of financial markets with the potential for real estate appreciation to allow for greater retail participation in an asset class that was previously restricted. Tokenisation can transform land from a static, illiquid holding into a democratised and trusted digital asset, marking the logical next step in India's land-tech evolution.

The convergence of policy digitisation, PropTech innovation, and institutional capital is transforming land from an emotional aspiration into an efficient, secure asset. India's land market is evolving from legacy-led to technology-led, from fragmented to formalised.

As the ecosystem matures, the winners will be those who see land not merely as an asset, but as an opportunity to build transparency, governance, and digital empowerment into the nation's growth story. The map is finally replacing the maze, and with it comes the promise of a more inclusive, efficient, and future-ready India.

The writer is CEO, The House of Abhinandan Lodha.

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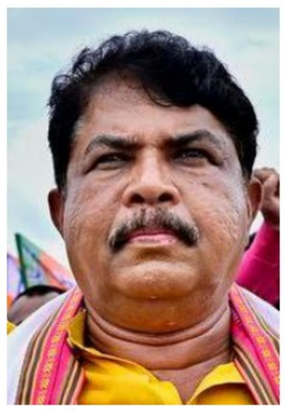

R. Ashok

Make it clear if there is a power-sharing pact, Ashok urges CM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Amid leadership tussle in the Congress government, Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R. Ashok on Friday urged Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to make it clear if any pact on power sharing had been reached between him and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar.

Addressing a press conference in Bengaluru, Mr. Ashok observed that though the Congress leaders had been ruling out any possibility of change of guard, the prominent leaders and legislators were making frequent visits to Delhi to meet the Central leaders.

In this context, the ruling Congress should inform people of the State if there was any power-sharing pact for the chief ministerial post, he said.

'No development'

He said governance had taken a hit owing to internal squabbling over leadership leading to the neglect of development, particularly in Bengaluru.

CM rules out change; says he will present next two Budgets

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said that the Congress high command has not spoken about any change in leadership in Karnataka, and emphasised that he, along with Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and all others in the party, are bound to follow decisions taken by the high command. "However, the high command has not said anything on this issue," he clarified in Mysuru on Friday.

Reiterating his hold over the administration, Mr. Siddaramaiah said he would be presenting the next two State Budgets, downplaying speculation about a 'November revolution', and making it clear that he will continue as the Chief Minister.

Mr. Siddaramaiah was responding to questions on reports that MLAs loyal to Mr. Shivakumar were camping in Delhi to meet senior Congress leaders, sparking speculation about a possible demand for a change in leadership in Karnataka. "Has the high command spoken anything about leadership change?" the Chief Minister shot back in response.

Mr. Siddaramaiah said that the final authority on all matters was the high command, and everyone must adhere to its decisions. "This applies even to a Cabinet reshuffle," he added.

Responding to statement of D.K. Suresh, former MP and brother of Mr. Shivakumar that he always "keeps his promise", the Chief Minister said that he does and the implementation of guarantee schemes was testimony of that, refusing to interpret it as a reference to power sharing pact.

He also said he had spoken to Agriculture Minister N. Cheluvarayaswamy, who is also in Delhi, and who told him that he was there to meet the Union Agriculture Minister.

The Chief Minister said AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge will be visiting Bengaluru on November 22, and he will meet him during the visit.

Asked whether public comments by MLAs on leadership change would demoralise party workers, he responded that everyone must abide by whatever the high command decides.

However, he skirted a question on whether he would direct MLAs and Ministers not to speak publicly about the leadership issue.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah speaking to reporters in Mysuru on Friday. M.A. SRIRAM

> Has the high command spoken anything about leadership change?
>
> **SIDDARAMAIAH,** Chief Minister

All eyes on Delhi as tussle for coveted post intensifies

A faction of MLAs backing the Deputy Chief Minister plans to demonstrate its strength before the Congress high command in the national capital to bolster its leader's claim to the Chief Minister's post

Nagesh Prabhu
BENGALURU

Differences between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his deputy and KPCC chief D.K. Shivakumar grew sharper, as the faction of MLAs backing the latter plans to demonstrate its strength before the party high command to bolster their leader's claim to the Chief Minister's post.

The faction has appealed to the party high command more than once to take decisive action to honour the much-talked-about power-sharing pact that was apparently arrived at during the formation of the government in May, 2023. With many MLAs loyal to Mr. Shivakumar planning to visit New Delhi in the next couple of days, it appears to be an intensification of the leadership tussle, as the Congress government completed the first half of its five-year term on November 20.

Parading MLAs?

Sources in the Congress claimed that Mr. Shivakumar has already secured the signatures of more than 50 Congress MLAs supporting him, and he has decided to parade the legislators before the party high command for bargaining hard and making all-out efforts to secure the top post this time as per the informal agreement on power sharing held in May 2023.

Sources also hinted that "any political development" was possible if the party high command declines to take firm action in the next few days.

Meanwhile, in an apparent attempt to increase the strength of MLAs backing him, Mr. Shivakumar visited the Parappana Agrahara central jail in the city on Friday to meet two Congress MLAs – Vinay Kulkarni and K.C. Veerendra. While the former is in jail for alleged involvement in a murder case, the latter is imprisoned on account of his alleged involvement in an illegal online and offline betting case.

In another development, Mr. Siddaramaiah categorically said he would continue as the Chief Minister and present the next two State Budgets and ruled out a leadership change.

In order to calm the situation, AICC chief Mallikarjun Kharge is expected to hold talks with Mr. Shivakumar and his brother D.K. Suresh, a former MP. Mr. Siddaramaiah already said he would call on Mr. Kharge in Bengaluru on Saturday.

Delhi visits

To put pressure on the party's Central leaders, sources said that many MLAs backing the Deputy Chief Minister are expected to go to Delhi on Saturday or Sunday.

Already six MLAs and a couple of MLCs are in Delhi, and they held the first round of talks with Mr. Kharge and AICC general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal on Thursday night.

Meanwhile, MLA for Ramanagara Iqbal Hussain said he would catch the flight to Delhi on Saturday along with a few other legislators. Mr. Hussain, who publicly backed Mr. Shivakumar to replace Mr. Siddaramaiah as Chief Minister, reportedly said that Mr. Kharge had sought the views of legislators backing Mr. Shivakumar and in turn he would consult the party's top leaders on the matter.

MLAs H.C. Balakrishna (Magadi) and K.M. Uday (Maddur), both belonging to the Vokkaliga community, have openly backed Mr. Shivakumar and they are expected to go to Delhi on Saturday.

Though Mr. Shivakumar downplayed the matter, claiming legislators are visiting the national capital to seek ministerial berths during the next Cabinet reshuffle, sources said that the loyalists of the KPCC chief have planned to adopt an "aggressive strategy" to put pressure on the high command to replace Mr. Siddaramaiah.

Dinner meeting

To evolve a counter-strategy, the faction backing Mr. Siddaramaiah, including Ministers G. Parameshwara, H.C. Mahadevappa, Dinesh Gundu Rao and former Minister K.N. Rajanna, held a dinner meeting at Public Works Minister Satish Jarkiholi's residence on Thursday night.

Fact sheet

- In an apparent attempt to increase the strength of MLAs backing him, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar visited the Parappana Agrahara central jail in Bengaluru on Friday to meet two Congress MLAs — Vinay Kulkarni and K.C. Veerendra
- AICC chief Mallikarjun Kharge is expected to hold talks with D.K. Shivakumar and his brother D.K. Suresh, a former MP. Siddaramaiah already said he would call on Mr. Kharge in Bengaluru on Saturday
- MLA for Ramanagara Iqbal Hussain has said he will catch a flight to Delhi on Saturday along with a few other legislators. Mr. Hussain has publicly backed D.K. Shivakumar to replace Siddaramaiah as the Chief Minister
- To evolve a counter-strategy, the faction backing Siddaramaiah held a dinner meeting at Public Works Minister Satish Jarkiholi's residence on Thursday night

G.S. Patil, MLA, and Malikayya Guttedar, former MLA, with Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar at his Sadashivanagar residence in Bengaluru on Friday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Factionalism is not in my blood: Shivakumar

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As a section of the ruling Congress are seeking a change of leadership in Karnataka, Deputy Chief Minister and KPCC chief D.K. Shivakumar on Friday said that factionalism was not in his blood. In a post on X, Mr. Shivakumar clarified that a section of MLAs went to Delhi to meet the Congress leadership ahead of an impending Cabinet reshuffle.

Speaking to reporters here, he said: "All 140 MLAs are my MLAs. Making a group is not in my blood. Both the Chief Minister and I have time and again said we abide by the high command."

In a move seeking transfer of power to Mr. Shivakumar, a group of MLAs loyal to the latter visited Delhi, further fueling speculation about the change of guard.

A section of the partymen had termed the political development as a "November Revolution."

Meanwhile, Mr. Shivakumar said it was natural for the MLAs to meet the Congress leadership to lobby for posts ahead of a Cabinet rejig. "The Chief Minister has decided to reshuffle the State Cabinet. Everyone wants to become a Minister, so it is quite natural for them to meet the leadership in Delhi. It is their right. We can't stop them," the KPCC chief said.

On Chief Minister saying he would complete the full five-year term, he said, "I wish him (CM) all the best. We will all work with him."

Media, Oppn. blamed

Meanwhile, in a post on X, AICC general secretary in charge of Karnataka, Randeep Singh Surjewala, said: "Had a discussion with Karnataka Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister, and they agreed that a decisively defeated and faction-ridden Karnataka BJP, along with a section of the media, are designedly running a maligning campaign against Karnataka and its Congress government."

"The sole idea is to undermine the stellar achievements and five guarantees, which have become an outstanding model of inclusive development and distributive justice," Mr. Surjewala said. "The needless statements of some Congress leaders and MLAs have also added to the speculation. INC has sternly warned them from making any public statements on the issue of leadership or falling for the agenda being propagated by the vested interests," Mr. Surjewala warned.

> The sole idea is to undermine the stellar achievements and five guarantees, which have become an outstanding model of development and distributive justice
>
> **RANDEEP SINGH SURJEWALA,** AICC general secretary in charge of Karnataka

Partial relief to Revanna as High Court quashes offence of outraging modesty against him

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a partial relief to Janata Dal(S) leader and former Minister H.D. Revanna, the High Court of Karnataka has quashed the allegation of "outraging the modesty of woman" against him under Section 354 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) in the chargesheet.

However, the court retained the allegation of sexual harassment, under Section 354A of the IPC, as alleged in the complaint y a 47-year-old woman, who was working at his house in Holenarasipur in Hassan district.

'Re-examine case'

The court also directed the special court of magistrate for criminal cases against present and former MPs and MLAs to re-examine whether it was a fit case to take cognisance of the alleged offence under Section 354A of the IPC by condoning the delay of more than three years, from the dates of alleged offences, in lodging the complaint.

Justice M.I. Arun passed the order on November 19 while partly allowing a petition by Mr. Revanna, who had questioned the registration of the first information report (FIR) against him on April 28, 2024 based on a complaint by the former maid.

It was stated in the complaint that she had left the house of Mr. Revanna four years prior to lodging the complaint due to repeated harassment by Mr. Revanna and his son, Prajwal.

The court noted that the version of the complainant was slightly varied and incorporated in the police report from what she had given earlier in her complaint, and this difference had attracted Section 354 of IPC against Mr. Revanna in the chargesheet.

"Perusal of the police report along with the materials produced reveals that the petitioner [Mr. Revanna] is primarily charged on the allegations by the complainant and not from any independent witnesses. Under the given peculiar facts and circumstances of the case, I am of the opinion that the petitioner is required to be charged with the offences made out as per the version in the complaint rather than the charge laid out in the police report. The allegation in the complaint against the petitioner attracts the provision of 354A of IPC and not Section 354 of IPC," the court observed.

The court noted that the special court had not considered the limitation of three years while taking cognisance of offence of sexual harassment as the cognisance was taken along with the offence of outraging modesty of woman to which limitation of three years was not attracted under Section 468 of the Cr. PC as it attracted punishment of more than three years, whereas limitation of three years applied to offences carrying punishment of up to three years.

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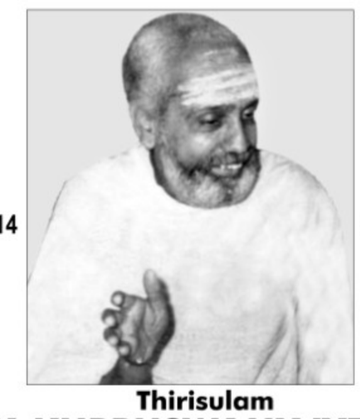
44th Death Anniversary



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Thirisulam

Y. KUPPUSWAMY IYER

Quarry contractor & Lessee of Thirusulam quarry for nearly 30 years. A philanthropist who reopened, renovated and Popularized the Ancient Sivan Temple in Thirusulam Village, Arulmigu Thripurasundari Samedha Sri Thirusla Nathar Temple

Remembered by son

K. Venkatraman (alias) Harikesanallur Venkatraman
Astrologer, Music Critic & Media Person
Daughter: Mala Janakiraman
E-Mail: harikesanallur2010@gmail.com

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY

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(W/o Late. P.V. Govinda Rao)
Valasaravakkam
You are always in our hearts and remain our greatest source of strength.
Shivaji, Amarnath, Sanjay & Family

DEATH

In Eternal Memory
CHANDRA RANGARAJAN
W/o Late S.T. Rangarajan
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DONATE EYES GIFT SIGHT

Deve Gowda, HDK re-elected Janata Dal (S) national and State presidents respectively

A meeting of party's national council took a unanimous decision at the event to mark 25 years of formation of the outfit; it observes that there is huge potential for party at State and national levels

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

On the occasion of its silver jubilee, the Janata Dal (Secular) on Friday re-elected unopposed former Prime Minister H. D. Deve Gowda and Union Minister H. D. Kumaraswamy as the party's national and State presidents, respectively.

A unanimous decision to this effect was taken at a meeting of the party's national council here to mark the 25 years of formation of the regional party.

The party's national council observed that there was a dire need to strengthen the party organisation under the leadership of these two seasoned leaders while maintaining that there was a huge potential for the party at the national as well as the State level.

Briefing mediapersons after the party's national council meeting, JD (S) Legislature Party leader C. B. Suresh Babu said that it was the unanimous view that these two leaders should take up the responsibility of stewarding the party organisation.

Pointing out that the JD (S) was the only regional party of Karnataka for now, he said the outfit could retain its identity due to the hard work and commitment of Mr. Gowda and Mr. Kumaraswamy.

JD(S) president H.D. Deve Gowda and other leaders at the silver jubilee event of the party in Bengaluru on Friday. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

He said the national council had expressed its appreciation towards party's youth wing president Nikhil Kumaraswamy for embarking upon a State tour to strengthen the party and for launching membership enrolment drive.

Tirade against CM

Earlier addressing the national council, both Mr. Gowda and Mr. Kumaraswamy took a dig at Chief Minister Siddaramaiah who was associated with the party earlier. Mr. Gowda accused him of quitting the party despite strengthening his political career through JD (S).

Taking potshots at the Chief Minister for his recent remarks that he would not have become the Chief Minister if he had continued in the JD (S), Mr. Kumaraswamy maintained that the Congress would not have given importance to Mr. Siddaramaiah if he had not been made Deputy Chief Minister twice by the JD (S) earlier.

He also hailed Mr. Gowda's contribution to the State's development, and said he had not only nurtured the political career of several political leaders, but had also contributed immensely to the welfare of various communities.

Mr. Nikhil Kumaraswamy said he did not aspire to hold any top party positions now and wanted to work as a party worker to turn the dream of his grandfather that the party should come to power independently.

Resolutions

Meanwhile, the national council decided to adopt two resolutions on taking up a campaign to protect the interests of farmers and also regarding strengthening the party organisation. These resolutions would get clearance from the party's national executive meeting to be held in Bengaluru on Saturday.

Two U.P. men held for sharing info on Indian Navy ships to Pakistan

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

Udupi police have arrested two persons hailing from Uttar Pradesh on the charge of sharing sensitive information with Pakistan of Indian Navy ships being built in the Udupi Cochin Shipyard and in Cochin Shipyard of the Cochin Shipyard Ltd.

The accused have been identified as Rohit, 29, and Santri, 37, both from Sultanpur district of Uttar Pradesh. They were arrested from Udupi on Thursday by a team led by Assistant Superintendent of Police Harsha Priyamvada and Police Sub-Inspector D. Anil Kumar. They were remanded in 14-day judicial custody.

Udupi Superintendent of Police Hariram Shankar told reporters in Udupi on Friday that Rohit earlier worked in Kochi Shipyard. He moved to Udupi Shipyard six months ago. Santri worked in Kochi Shipyard. Both were working as 'insulators' on contractual basis. They are employees of Shushma Marine Private Limited, which has a sub-contract with Cochin Shipyard Limited.

While working in Cochin Shipyard, Rohit illegally shared, via WhatsApp and Facebook, with Pakistani people the confidential list of identification numbers and other classified information about the Indian Navy ships being built at Cochin Shipyard. After moving to Udupi, he shared information about naval ships in Udupi Shipyard. In addition, he also shared information he received from Santri about naval ships in Kochi yard.

One of them has been found sharing sensitive classified information about naval ships for the last 18 months, according to police

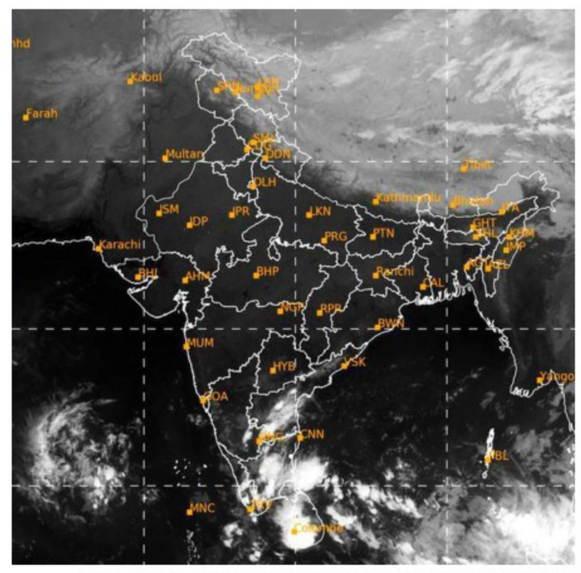
The two are accused of engaging in activities, which could endanger the sovereignty, unity, and integrity of India, and pose a threat to internal security.

On November 19, the CEO of Udupi Cochin Shipyard filed a complaint with the Malpe police in Udupi, who registered a case for offences punishable under Section 152 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), and Sections 3 and 5 of the Official Secrets Act. The SP said Rohit had been found sharing sensitive classified information about naval ships for the last 18 months. "Seeing the multiple times Rohit has received money, it appears that he is the main accused," Mr. Shankar said.

On November 22, the police will move the court for custody of the two persons. Efforts are on if there are more people associated with the accused. The firm that recruited the two arrested persons will also be questioned. Udupi district police is handling the case under the supervision of Mr. Priyamvada. National investigation agencies will be joining the investigation in the coming days, he said.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.15 HRS)

Forecast for Saturday: Heavy rainfall/thunderstorm with lightning/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala, Mahe and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Cold wave conditions likely at isolated places over west Madhya Pradesh

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	30.5	17.1	Kozhikode	—	34.2	26.4
Ahmedabad	—	30.5	16.7	Kurnool	—	31.3	20.2
Aizawl	—	28.8	14.2	Lucknow	—	28.4	14.5
Allahabad	—	26.8	13.1	Madurai	—	34.1	24.1
Bengaluru	—	28.1	18.6	Mangaluru	—	33.4	24.4
Bhopal	—	27.8	9.6	Mumbai	—	33.9	17.4
Bhubaneswar	—	32.6	19.2	Mysuru	—	30.0	19.0
Chandigarh	—	27.1	10.0	New Delhi	—	28.2	11.2
Chennai	0.6	31.6	24.4	Patna	—	28.7	17.7
Coimbatore	—	32.4	22.0	Port Blair	2	30.3	26.3
Dehradun	—	26.2	11.0	Puducherry	2	30.0	23.6
Gangtok	—	19.5	9.8	Pune	—	31.5	15.8
Goa	—	34.0	22.4	Raipur	—	31.2	14.1
Guwahati	—	30.0	16.6	Ranchi	—	26.3	13.2
Hubballi	—	30.0	21.0	Shillong	—	20.0	9.0
Hyderabad	—	29.6	14.4	Shimla	—	18.8	8.4
Imphal	—	27.6	19.4	Srinagar	—	17.3	-0.5
Jaipur	—	27.5	13.5	Thiruvananthapuram	—	33.3	24.3
Kochi	—	31.8	25.6	Tiruchi	3	32.1	24.0
Kohima	—	20.9	12.8	Vijayawada	—	32.5	23.6
Kolkata	—	29.5	18.4	Visakhapatnam	—	31.9	24.9

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.36	107	12	... 225	...243	
Bengaluru	...6	..25	70	 72	...119	
Chennai	.15	..26	26	... 158	...104	
Delhi	.40	152	84	... 425	...394	
Hyderabad	...4	..29	76	... 151	...119	
Kolkata	...3	..73	20	... 243	...193	
Lucknow	...7	..34	47	... 221	...276	
Mumbai	...8	..49	32	... 223	...286	
Pune	.11	108	94	... 269	...262	
Visakhapatnam	..—	..—	10	..... —	.....†	.....

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 422 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 17

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

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Item rate Tender under two cover system are invited as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible (Electrical) Contractors registered in KCEI who have got adequate financial resources & sufficient past experience for the following work as per the schedule given below :

Name of the Work : Providing Highmast to Major circles at Baikampadi Industrial Area, Dakshina Kannada District. **(Reserve for CAT-I), (2nd Call).**

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TENDER NOTIFICATION NO./2025-26/2069 DATED :21/11/2025

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On behalf of the Governer of Karnataka, Executive Engineer, Panchayathraj Engineering Division ,Koppal Division, Koppal invites short term tenders for Providing Project Management Consultancy Services for the following work.

Description of work: 1 Project Management Consultancy (PMC) Services for surveying, preparation of DPRS/estimates for **BUILDING WORKS** etc.in Koppal district.

Calendar of Events: 1.Uploading Request of Proposal (RFP) document: From **24.11.2025** to **08.12.2025** up to 16:00 hrs. 2.Down loading of RFP from E-Portal starts from: From **24.11.2025** to **08.12.2025** up to 16:00 hrs. 3.Pre Proposal meeting to be held on: **29.11.2025**. at 11.30 AM in the office of Executive Engineer 4.Last Date for receipt of Technical and Financial Proposals : **08.12.2025** at 17.00 hrs. 5.Date of Opening of Technical Proposal: **09.12.2025** .at 11:00 hrs.

The RFP can be downloaded from the e-Procurement platform kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal Proposals shall be submitted electronically at kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal. and EMD and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Interested firms shall register on the e-procurement platform to participate in this tender.

* The period of completion of PMC will be till the completion of the works.
* Please note henceforth, any changes in the schedule/Contents will be published through News papers and also updated on e-procurement portal.
* Details regarding Centers of facilities will be available in the e-portal.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
PRED Koppal

DIPR/Koppal/469/KSMCA-2025-26

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule Property from its Owners: **(1)Sri.JITENDRA KUMAR** S/o Sri.Dharmichand Todarwal, **(2)Sri.ARAVIND KUMAR SALECHA** S/o Sri.Devichand Salecha, **(3)Sri.U.GOUTHAM CHAND BOHRA** S/o Sri.Uttam Chand J, **(4)Sri.U.MAHAVEER CHAND** S/o Sri.J.Uttam Chand, **(5)Smt.KALPANA MAHAVEER BOHRA** W/o Sri.U.Mahaveer Chand, **(6)Smt.SANGEETHA** W/o Sri.P.Ashok Kumar and **(7)Sri.RAJESH KUMAR** S/o Sri.Uttamchand Khariwal Jain.

Apart from the said owners, if any other person/s have any manner of claim or interest or demand over the Schedule property or any part thereof by way of sale, lease, mortgage, gift, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, pre-emption or otherwise howsoever, they are hereby requested to file their objection/s (along with the photocopies of the documents on which they are relying), with the undersigned within **10 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the vacant residential property bearing Municipal No.18, PID No.49-10-18, New EPID No.6897020799, measuring East to West (46' 11" + 46' 7")/2 and North to South (77' 1" + 77' 6")/2, in all measuring 3615 Sq.ft., situated at 5th Cross, 4th Main Road, Kempegowdanagar (K.G.Nagar), Bangalore and bounded on:

East by : 4th Main Road
West by : Property of D.C.Srivathsava, K.S.Gopalakrishna and V.S.Jayraj
North by : Property of S.K.Sharma
South by : 5th Cross Road.

Sd/- S.F. GOUTAM CHAND, Advocate,
GOUTAM ASSOCIATES,
No.60, 2nd Floor, Old Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bengaluru - 560004

Government of Maharashtra
Forest Department
Mangrove Division - North Konkan
Abhimaan II, 5th Floor, Teen Haat Naka, Naupada, Thane (W)-400 602
Email: dfommcu@gmail.com
Parent Portal: **http://mahatenders.gov.in**

E-Tender

Tender Notice No. DFO/MDNK/50/2025-26.

Online Tender Forms in B-1 Format, for the following work are invited by the Divisional Forest Officer, Mangrove Division- North Konkan, Abhimaan II, 5th Floor, Teen Haat Naka, Naupada, Thane (W) - 400 602 from the contractors registered with the Government of Maharashtra in appropriate class of Tender Notice.

The blank tender documents should be downloaded from Government website **http://mahatenders.gov.in** from **21/11/2025 at 06.00 pm to 28/11/2025 at 06.00 pm.** Blank Tender documents will not be sold by this office; interested contractors have to download tender documents from the website. For any queries in this regard the interested contractors can contact on telephone no **022-69309286** during office hours.

All requisite information required for the submission of **Bid Capacity documents** is available on the above said website. If any assistance is required regarding e-Tendering (uploading/downloading) please contact NIC Help Desk number: **1800 3070 2232.**

Sr. No	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.)	Time limit for completion	Cost of Blank Tender Form (Non - Refundable)
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Construction of RCC Compound wall with Y- type Angle & 2.45 mm dia G.I. Pipe (Rezan/ concenti Deleted ire 0.75 mm dia) at Malwani in Na. Bhu. Kra. 02 on Madh - Marve Road in Malwani Beat in Boriwali Round in West Mumbai Range of Mangrove Division North Konkan.	83,21,908/-	83,219/-	4 Months	Rs. 1180/- (Including GST)

1) No changes are to be made by the contractor in the tender documents published on the website. If any changes are made the tender documents will be rejected & action accordingly will be taken against the contractor. Information published on the government website will be final.

2) Right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason there of is reserved.

Sd/-
Divisional Forest Officer,
Mangrove Division- North Konkan.

DGIPR/2025-2026/4164

Razorpay Software Limited
Reg: Office: First Floor, SJR Cyber, 22, Laskar Hosur Road, Adugodi, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560030
CIN: U72200KA2013PLC097389

Razorpay Payments Private Limited
Reg: Office: First Floor, SJR Cyber, 22, Laskar Hosur Road, Adugodi, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560030
CIN: U62099KA2024PTC188982

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is being issued jointly by **Razorpay Software Limited (Formerly known as Razorpay Software Private Limited) ("Company")** and **Razorpay Payments Private Limited ("Acquirer")** pursuant to Paragraph 3(I), Annex-1 of the 'Requirement for obtaining prior approval in case of takeover acquisition of control of non-bank PSOs and sale / transfer of payment system activity of non-bank PSO' bearing reference no. CO.DPSS.POLC. No.S-590/02-14-006/2022-23, issued by the Reserve Bank of India **("RBI")** dated July 04, 2022 **("PSO Change in Control Circular")**.

Background of the Company: The Company is a public limited company, having CIN-U72200KA2013PLC097389 and its registered office at First Floor, SJR Cyber, 22, Laskar Hosur Road, Adugodi, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560030. The RBI granted authorisation to the Company on December 19, 2023, to operate as Online Payment Aggregator.

Background of Acquirer: The Acquirer is a Private Limited company having CIN - U62099KA2024PTC188982 and its registered office at First Floor, SJR Cyber, 22, Laskar Hosur Road, Adugodi, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560030. The Acquirer is engaged in the business Payment Aggregation. The RBI granted authorisation to the Acquirer on October 29, 2025, to operate as Payment Aggregator. The Acquirer is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company.

Background of Transaction: Pursuant to Scheme of Arrangement approved by the Regional Director, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, the Payment Aggregation business of the Company has been demerged with the Acquirer.

RBI Approval: In terms of the PSO Change in Control Circular, the RBI has, by way of its letter bearing reference number CO.DPSS.AUTH.No. S827/ 02.27.004 /2025-26 dated October 29, 2025, provided its approval for transfer of Payment Aggregation activity from the Company to Acquirer.

The proposed Transfer will be effected upon the fulfilment of various conditions and not earlier than 15 (fifteen) calendar days from the date of publication of this notice, in accordance with Paragraph 3(I), Annex-1 of the PSO Change in Control Circular.

Any person seeking any clarification(s) and/or having any objection(s) to the Proposed Transfer may write to the Company within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of this notice top **legal@razorpay.com** and/ or **company-secretary@razorpay.com.**

For Razorpay Software Limited
Sd/-
Prabhakar Tiwari
Company Secretary
Membership No. A32733

For Razorpay Payments Private Limited
Sd/-
Zaid Bin Farooq
Company Secretary
Membership No. A60539

Date: November 22, 2025 - Place: Bangalore

FORM NO. 14
[See Regulation 33(2)]
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE, DEPTT. OF FINANCIAL SERVICES
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNBAL - 2, BENGALURU
4th Floor, Telephone House, Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru, Pin Code - 560 001.

RC No. 828 / 2019

PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK
Tumkur Branch
1st Cross, Vidyanagar, B.H. Road, Tumkur - 572 103.
... Certificate Holder Bank

Versus

M/s. Shirdi Sai Poultry Farm & Anr
... Certificate Debtor / Defendants

DEMAND NOTICE

1. M/s. Shirdi Sai Poultry Farm
A Properietorship Firm, Salalwara Main Road, Near Mallasandra, Sy.No. 60, Hullukasanahalli, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru - 560 083.
Rep. by its Properietor - Sri Manjunatheswara Umesh.
2. Sri Manjunatheswara Umesh S/o. Manjunatheswara
No. 202, 5th Cross, 1st Main, BHBCS Layout, Subramanyapura Post, Bengaluru - 560 061.
... Certificate Debtor / Defendants

In view of the Recovery Certificate issued in **TA / 1253 / 2017,** passed by the **Hon'ble Presiding Officer, DRT, Bangalore on Dtd. 02-03-2019 an amount of Rs. 40,00,407/- (Rupees Forty Lakh(s) Four Hundred Seven Only)** is due against you along with interest and costs from date of filing of O.A.s till realization of the Recovery Certificate.

In addition to the sum aforesaid you will be liable to pay all charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and other process that may be taken for recovering the amount due.

You are hereby called upon to deposit the amount within 15 days of the receipt of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made as per rules.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, **on 27th Day of Feb. 2020.**

RECOVERY OFFICER - 1
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - 2
BENGALURU

Note : Attention is invited to Rule 16 of the Second Schedule of the Income Tax Act 1961 read with recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 which is reproduced below :

"Rule 16(1) where a notice has been served on a defaulter under Rule 2, the defaulter or his representative or his representative in interest shall not be competent to mortgage, charge, lease or otherwise deal with any property belonging to him except with the permission of the Debts Recovery Officer, nor shall any civil court issue any process against such property in execution of a decree for the payment of money.

(2) Where an attachment has been made under this schedule any private transfer or delivery of the property attached or of any interest therein and any payment to the defaulter of any debt, dividend or other monies contrary to such attachment, shall be void, as against all claims enforceable under the attachment.

(3) You are also liable to disclose your assets both movable and immovable to this Tribunal along with the Income Tax Returns of last 5 year.

Blow to States

The Supreme Court should have upheld timelines for Governors and President

By holding that the judiciary cannot fetter Governors and the President to "one-size-fits-all" timetables or usurp their functions by assuming "deemed consent" of proposed Bills by States, and also clarifying that these authorities cannot resort to "prolonged and evasive inaction", the Supreme Court's answer to the 16th Presidential Reference appears as a constitutional balancing act. But, substantively, it is a blow to federalism as it effectively allows Governors unchecked powers to block or delay State legislation without constitutional accountability. This opinion contradicts a progressive judgment in April 2025 that had prescribed three-month timelines and used Article 142 to grant deemed assent to some Bills passed in the Tamil Nadu Assembly. The Court invoked separation of powers to reject timelines and Article 142's use, but this empowers Governors at the cost of State rights. The judgment claims that Articles 200 and 201 prescribe no deadlines, but disregards explicit constitutional text. In Article 200, the Governor must declare his decision "as soon as possible" – the Court called it too "elastic" to support timelines, rendering constitutional text unenforceable. The Court's assertion that Governors are not bound by the Council of Ministers' aid and advice contradicts constitutional history. The framers explicitly removed the phrase "in his discretion" – a phrase in the Government of India Act, 1935 – from Articles 200 and 201. Even the Sarkaria Commission recommended a six-month period for Governors to decide on Bills.

The Court did rule that withholding assent must be followed by returning the Bill to the Assembly. But the judgment rules that even if the Assembly passes the Bill a second time, the Governor retains the option to reserve it for the President. This kills the binding nature of the legislature's second passage. Consequently, whether at first instance or after reconsideration, a Governor can refer a Bill to the President under Article 200. Once there, Bills can languish indefinitely as the judgment ruled that the President has no obligation to consult the Court. The Assembly has no recourse to re-pass Bills in a binding manner, and the judgment provides no guidance on when referring a Bill to the President is appropriate. While the judgment talks of a "limited mandamus" for prolonged inaction, it refuses to define what constitutes a "reasonable period of time", forcing States into legal battles to prove delay. By removing procedural safeguards (timelines and deemed assent), extraordinary remedies (Article 142), and oversight (judicial review of actions under Article 200), the Court's opinion has allowed the possibility of executive overreach. States have little mechanism to challenge arbitrary delays, no automatic approval after reasonable periods, and no remedy when Bills are referred to the President, even on subjects under the State List. And these are situations that have recently transpired in many Opposition-ruled States. The Court appears to have found a way to turn the letter against the spirit of the Constitution.

Overcoming resistance

Version 2 of the National Action Plan on AMR requires fresh commitment

The introduction of the second iteration of the National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance is an acknowledgement that, but for some marginal gains, implementation of version 1 was, at best, sluggish. In a welcome move, the Centre has released a further version of the policy, though the details are not yet available in the public realm, to give the nation a booster shot at trying to fix the rather humongous AMR problem that the country has had to contend with, increasing volumes to boot. In October, WHO released its Global antibiotic resistance surveillance report, which recorded that in 2023, approximately one in three bacterial infections in India were resistant to commonly-used antibiotics. Globally, it was one in six confirmed infections. It spelt out why India was disproportionately affected – factors included a high infectious disease burden, overuse and misuse of antibiotics and gaps in the surveillance and healthcare infrastructure. *E.coli* and *Klebsiella pneumoniae* have exhibited high resistance to critical antibiotics, making the very last line of drugs ineffective. But human health is not the sole footprint AMR possesses; there is scarcely a field in the food chain where its cold arms have not touched – from veterinary practices to contaminating soil and water health and, thereby, agriculture and aquaculture. This ubiquitous spread of AMR has spurred scientists to push the One Health technique – it integrates the prisms of human health, animal health and environmental health – to handle growing resistance in communities.

The time is, no doubt, ripe for India to take AMR seriously and push for an enhanced, committed antibiotics stewardship programme. While the first National Action Plan played a key role in raising the profile of AMR, the actual implementation suffered. It is true that the country expanded its national surveillance programme by adding a solid laboratory network (thanks, in part, to the COVID-19 pandemic), it also scored a win with the ban on Colistin as a growth factor in the animal husbandry sector. However, the programme flailed as it failed to secure potent collaborations with States. A few States drew up their own policies, but only Kerala implemented it well enough to see a slight drop in AMR levels in the community, recently. This policy will have to tackle every aspect of AMR's causative factors, including the rampant overuse and misuse of antibiotics. The One Health approach will have to be strengthened, and better co-ordination with States ensured. This time around, the policy will have to be the real deal and deliver, against resistance.

Rethinking a symbol of 'environment responsibility'

P. Ragavan

is a researcher in the field of vegetated coastal habitats such as mangroves

The global push to ease industrial norms has recently extended to one of the most visible symbols of environmental responsibility – green cover within industrial estates and individual industries. The growing trend of reducing green-cover requirements for industrial estates, units within estates, and standalone industries is often celebrated as a step toward "ease of doing business". However, the rationale for such relaxation – frequently based on international examples where minimum plantation norms appear lower – often lacks ecological context. While these relaxations may simplify compliance and enhance land-use efficiency, they raise a critical question. Are we mistaking convenience for sustainability?

While industrial development inevitably entails ecological alteration, including the clearing of vegetation and habitats, it is critical to recognise that on-site green belts cannot compensate for the broader ecological losses associated with land conversion. Green belts primarily provide localised benefits such as microclimate regulation, dust suppression and visual greening. But they do not restore forest functions, biodiversity or ecosystem resilience. Their role remains mitigative, not restorative.

Empirical evidence from multiple regions shows that well-designed green belts can reduce total suspended particulate matter (TSP) by up to 65% and lower ambient noise levels by 10 decibels-17 decibels in industrial or roadside environments. Vegetation acts as a filtering and dispersing surface, improving air quality and reducing thermal stress. However, these gains are spatially limited and cannot replicate the complex ecological services – such as carbon sequestration, hydrological regulation, and habitat connectivity – provided by intact or semi-natural landscapes.

Research across biomes reinforces that industrial plantations and internal green belts are poor substitutes for natural forests, wetlands or connected ecosystems. They tend to be narrow, mono-specific, and vulnerable to degradation over time. In short, green belts mitigate local operational impacts but do not reverse the ecological costs of industrial land use.

Why global parallels are misleading

Policymakers and planners often point to other nations where the mandated green-area ratios for industries are lower. However, such comparisons rarely account for differences in population density, ecological capacity and economic structure – all of which shape a country's environmental resilience.

A nation with vast open spaces and lower population pressure can afford smaller on-site green ratios because its surrounding landscapes still provide ecological buffering. In contrast, in densely populated and industrially intensive regions, green buffers play an essential role in maintaining liveable conditions. Applying the same percentage everywhere is like prescribing the same diet for everyone – regardless of age, activity, or health. These differences underline a key point: policy transfers across countries must be ecologically calibrated. Borrowing a numerical target for green cover from another region – without considering population density, ecosystem stress, and climate zones – does not constitute evidence-based policymaking.

> Industrial on-site green cover and green belts are poor substitutes for natural forests, wetlands or connected ecosystems

A balanced, landscape-level strategy

Rather than merely reducing plot-level green cover, particularly when uneven requirements for different industry types create uncertainty and inconsistency, a more balanced and scientifically informed approach would integrate industrial growth with landscape-scale greening. Partial relaxation of internal green cover accompanied by mandatory off-site greening commitments could ensure that industrial expansion coexists with ecological renewal. Such commitments could include: developing regional or State-level green reserves adjacent to industrial clusters; restoring degraded lands and buffer zones around protected areas or river basins and enhancing ecological health of protected areas; and integrating industrial greening efforts into national or regional green credit or carbon offset programmes, ensuring accountability and measurable ecological outcomes.

This two-tiered strategy, of combining on-site mitigation with off-site restoration within the region/State, would help transform industries into partners in ecological stewardship, not merely compliance actors. On-site green belts can serve as localised "healing zones", while landscape-level greening functions as the ecological immune system sustaining the broader environment.

By adopting this integrated approach, future industrial expansion can often be accommodated within existing premises, optimising land use while reducing the need for new green-field developments. This reduces additional habitat loss and promotes the restoration of surrounding ecosystems through coordinated afforestation, wetland rehabilitation, and habitat connectivity measures.

Such a strategy embodies the true essence of Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) where economic development is in synergy with ecological renewal. Localised plantations within factory premises may contribute to environmental management, but the real sustainability dividend comes from restoring natural systems beyond industrial boundaries.

Ultimately, the strength of future economies will depend not only on industrial productivity but also on the resilience of the ecosystems that sustain them. The power of NbS lies not in decorative greenery within factory walls, but in linking industrial progress to the regeneration of living landscapes ensuring that growth and nature thrive together.

The future of industrial sustainability will not be defined by how many trees stand inside factory gates, but by how deeply industries root themselves in the health of the landscapes that surround them.

Green belts within industrial premises function much like medicine applied directly to a wound – immediate and localised. Expanding natural green cover around industrial clusters, on the other hand, is comparable to strengthening the body's overall immunity –long term, systemic and preventive. Both approaches are indispensable, and neglecting either would be akin to attempting to heal an injury on the right hand by treating the left. While industrial flexibility is important, ecological safeguards cannot be compromised for short-term convenience.

Industries as ecological stewards

The contribution of industries to national growth and the comfort of modern life is undeniable. Yet, their ecological footprint during construction and operation remains an unavoidable reality. Traditionally, ecological stewardship has been entrusted to local communities through initiatives such as community forestry, joint forest management, and local conservation programmes. Industries, by contrast, have long been perceived as entities to regulate or penalise, rather than as partners to empower in environmental stewardship.

Industries drive national growth yet create ecological impacts. Traditionally, communities led stewardship, while industries were regulated. Today, sustainable development reframes this role, emphasising industrial stewardship through green belts, biodiversity offsets, and circular practices. Allowing calibrated reductions in on-site green cover, balanced by compensatory duties, encourages industries as ecological partners. Informed citizen participation further strengthens this hybrid approach, promoting a practical, future-ready balance between development and environmental protection and lasting resilience

The views expressed are personal

The new direction for India should be toward Asia

Mukul Sanwal

is a former United Nations diplomat

The photograph of Russian President Vladimir Putin, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping in an animated conversation at the 2025 Tianjin Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit in early September this year exhibited elements unifying them, which has been the hallmark of meetings of the G-7. Just a month later, at the Busan Summit 2025, the photograph of U.S. President Donald Trump, who looked uneasy, and Mr. Xi, who looked calm, at the "G2" summit, acknowledges the power shift to Asia.

The U.S. Secretary of State told the Senate that the story of the 21st century will be written in Asia. The global trend was then obscured by now U.S. Ambassador to India Sergio Gor laying out the U.S.'s priorities: 'pull India' to its side away from China and get India to stop buying cheap Russian oil. Mr. Modi later made clear that India's future cannot be dictated by others.

A critical moment for foreign policy

India's foreign policy is at an inflexion point as it is on the cusp of becoming one of the largest economies, and the U.S. is upending multilateralism and reducing India's strategic policy space in several key domains as India's relations with China improve and those with Russia strengthen. Is the U.S. thwarting India's rise to prevent another China? With China, it should be a case of 'trust but verify' as negotiations for an international border in Ladakh advance with it having the potential to settle the Kashmir issue and investment that may follow. Russia is a 75-year-old tested partner and its S-400 was the game-changer in 'Operation Sindoor'.

For India, the choice is not binary, as western analysts argue, tilting towards the U.S. or China. The new direction for India should be toward Asia, whose market will be larger than the U.S.

Asia is coming together in a form very different to the way the West came together, not based on colonialism or global rules but shared value chain interests. Countries in the region want partnership with India, as it has the technological capacity and economic heft to balance China.

> Asia is at the centre of the world and India should focus on self-sustaining growth

Asia, with two-thirds of the global population and wealth, is again at the centre of the world. BRICS, with overlapping membership and policies, the SCO, with its stress on geo-security-economics, and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, a political-trade grouping, are going to be intertwined. The door to re-entry into the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership is still open. This is where trade concessions should be made, which will be outside World Trade Organization rules, including modus vivendi on trade with China, as an alternative market to the U.S.

Hard decisions

India has moved away from the hesitations of a developing country, ring-fencing its growth, to an emerging power, confidently engaging others as a peer. U.S. pressure has led to a new national consensus on acceptability of hard decisions.

First, operationalisation of 'strategic autonomy' should be based on India's uniqueness having two global agendas. It has the highest growth rate, huge potential till 2100, the largest labour pool and the highest number of the poor. Within the United Nations, India's foundational sustainable development interests are closer to the Global South. India will need to clarify its understanding of 'partnership' linking value chains and adjusting priorities without diluting them to avoid accepting the agendas and frameworks of others.

Second, the new rules will be very different to the old ones. Asia had no answer to Europe's gunboats and later leverage, and interdependence gave immense advantage to the West. Interconnectedness of the digital economy is reflected in technological capacity, not diplomacy, leading to military capability. Assumptions of foreign, technology and security policies are being questioned as innovation interconnections determine economic growth, political influence and military strength. For India, there can be no compromise on national data, endogenous technology innovation, local defence production and inclusive growth.

Third, cyber warfare should be the central pillar of national security, based on India's comparative advantage, and not theatre commands as land-based threats have changed. China has stepped back from the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor which Pakistan has substituted with expensive Asian Development Bank loans. It has strategic support from the U..S, a mutual defence pact with Saudi Arabia and increased influence, along with the U.S., in Bangladesh. The U.S. is seeking the Bagram base in Afghanistan. India has also secured a six-month waiver from U.S. sanctions on Chabahar Port which gave India an opening into Iran, Afghanistan, Central Asia and Russia.

The evolving neighbourhood landscape suggests the need for a national debate on reorienting defence allocations – halving the size of the Army and reducing numbers of large (imported) platforms for endogenous Artificial Intelligence (AI), air defence, space, missiles and drones where India has world-class capability – to factor in the need for continuing innovation, with spin-offs for growth.

An AI future

Lastly, shaping the global AI future is necessary for double-digit inclusive growth. Bernstein, a wealth management firm, in a report has asked questions about India's ₹10,372-crore AI mission, warning that it could become inconsequential on the global stage. It also said that U.S. companies could dominate AI. A Parliamentary Standing Committee has emphasised the need for indigenous research in foundational AI models to ensure sovereign capability. Funding should increase at least 20-fold to support national strategic collaboration, high-end computational resources, proprietary models and talent development driven by the Prime Minister's Office. AI sovereignty is now the key requirement to be a global power by 2047.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

State Bills, timelines

The answer of the Supreme Court of India to the Presidential reference, under Article 143, is disquieting and goes against federal principles (Front page, November 21). The decision of the Constitutional bench has the potential to lead to an anarchic state of affairs. If a Governor of a State indefinitely sits on Bills passed unanimously by the Legislature, there is now very little that the courts can do. The Court has said that a Governor cannot sit on Bills indefinitely, and in such circumstances, limited judicial review is permissible directing the Governor to pass orders within a reasonable time. This is precisely what the Justice J.B. Pardiwala-led Bench had done earlier by fixing a three-month period. In matters affecting democratic principles such as federalism, swift action is paramount.

The Court has virtually upended the rule of law as a Governor can now, at his will, subvert the democratic will of the people expressed through the Legislature. This decision is a massive setback to the constitutional vision as the Executive can now play its own card. A fixed timeline has to be prescribed

N.G.R. Prasad,
Chennai

The Court's verdict was expected to settle a persistent constitutional irritant. Instead, it delivers a reprimand without a remedy. The Court affirms that Governors cannot hold Bills indefinitely, yet it pointedly avoids prescribing even a minimal timeline, leaving intact the ambiguity that has enabled Raj Bhavans to convert inaction into political leverage.

The federal implications are hard to miss. It is largely non-BJP-ruled States that have borne the brunt of prolonged gubernatorial inaction, often at politically sensitive moments. When unelected authorities can slow-walk legislation without consequence, the balance of Indian federalism tilts subtly, but significantly, against States, especially those outside the ruling coalition at the Centre.

M. Jameel Ahmed,
Mysuru

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

Assistant Conservator of Forests and SARPA State nodal officer Muhammed Anwar Y. leads a workshop for snake rescuers in Alappuzha in 2024. KERALA FOREST DEPARTMENT

A snakebite that sparked a change

Last month, Kerala declared snakebite envenomation a notifiable disease. Though snakebites are common in the State, a 2019 incident triggered a systemic overhaul. A 10-year-old girl had died of a venomous snake bite in a school in Wayanad, and people were outraged. Since then, a digital rescue network has been launched and school infrastructure upgraded. **Sarath Babu George** reports on Kerala's quest for zero snakebite mortality

On October 10, following in the footsteps of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, Kerala declared snakebite envenomation a disease of public health importance under the Kerala Public Health Act, 2023. This notification is in accordance with the Centre's directive to implement the 2024 National Action Plan for Snakebite Envenoming, an initiative to halve snakebite-related deaths in India by 2030. Of the nearly 78,600 snakebite deaths annually reported worldwide, over 64,000 deaths occur in India, according to a study published in the peer-reviewed journal, *Nature Communications*, in 2022.

Dr. Ajan M.J., Assistant Director, Health and Family Welfare Department, who is the State nodal officer for snakebite envenomation management, says the notification will enable more accurate tracking of snakebite cases, including their frequency, severity, and geographic spread. "This, in turn, will provide clearer epidemiological insights by revealing trends, hotspots, and vulnerable populations. More importantly, it will help us ensure adequate stock of ASV (anti-snake venom) in high-incidence regions and in boosting hospital readiness," he says.

This moment did not appear out of nowhere. It was shaped, painfully and irrevocably, by a sequence of events that forced the State to confront the cost of human-wildlife conflict.

Danger in a crevice

On the morning of November 20, 2019, Shehala Sherin, 10, set out for school with a lunch box in hand. Sherin, a Class 5 student at the Government Sarvajana Vocational Higher Secondary School in Sulthan Bathery in Wayanad district, was accompanied by her cousin Nihal N. Firoz, also 10 years old.

On that cool afternoon, when she was in the classroom, Sherin's foot slipped into a crevice beneath her bench. She cried out. Her parents Abdul Azis N.V. and Sajna Aysha later learnt that a venomous snake curled up there had bitten her.

"A place that should have been a haven for our child became the beginning of our nightmare," says Azis, recalling the worst day of his life.

To make matters worse, there was a delay in taking Sherin to the hospital. "She was lying in pain as people stood confused around her. I arrived at the school at 3:50 (p.m.) and took her to the hospital." Sherin had been bitten nearly 40 minutes earlier. There was already redness and swelling in that area and she was in visible pain.

They rushed the child to a private hospital nearby, which referred her to the Sulthan Bathery Taluk Hospital, nearly 2 kilometres away. "While the hospital had an adequate stock of ASV, they did not have ventilator support," says Azis. The doctors recommended that she be taken to the Kozhikode Government Medical College, nearly 90 km away.

"Her condition had deteriorated rapidly by then. On the way, the ambulance went to the Vythiri Taluk Hospital, where doctors again said they could not handle the case," Azis says. From there, Sherin was shifted to a private hospital in Chelod, around 5 km away. At 6:15 p.m., she was pronounced dead.

> Within five years, snakebite-related deaths have reduced from 123 in 2018-19 to 34 in 2024-25
>
> **MUHAMMED ANWAR Y.**
> Assistant Conservator of Forests

"The classroom floor had cracks and no pest control checks had been carried out," alleges Azis. "No one took responsibility for the safety of children in that school. Not the teachers, not the administration."

The incident exposed the inability of the State to handle snakebite cases even though 123 people had died of snakebite during 2018-2019. The preventable death of a child led the Kerala High Court to initiate suo moto proceedings on December 9, 2019. This resulted in major school infrastructural upgrades and safety guidelines.

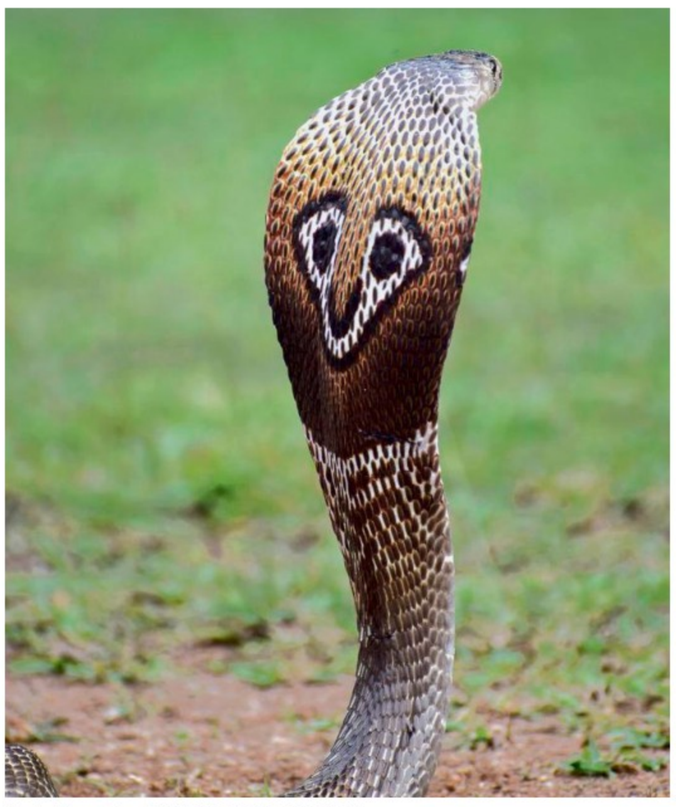
Using snakes as a weapon

Just months after Sherin's death, a snakebite again dominated headlines in Kerala. In May 2020, a bank clerk from Kollam city, Sooraj Kumar, used a venomous snake to kill his wife, Uthra. He clutched the Indian cobra by its hood and pressed it near Uthra while she was sleeping. The agitated snake bit her twice, killing her. Cobra venom can kill a person in hours by paralysing respiratory muscles.

This was not Kumar's first attempt at killing his wife, the investigation revealed. Two months earlier, he had tried to kill Uthra by releasing a Russell's viper, another venomous snake, into the bedroom. The viper had bitten her, but she survived after hospitalisation. While that was dismissed by the family as an unfortunate accident, Uthra's parents filed a police complaint after her death. The police arrested Kumar.

During their investigation, the police learnt that Kumar had bought the snakes from traditional snake charmers and unlicensed handlers who illegally keep wild snakes in captivity. His motive was to get hold of Uthra's gold and claim her life insurance payout. The Additional District and Sessions Court-VI, Kollam, deemed the case "rarest of the rare", and sentenced Kumar to a double life term along with 17 years of rigorous imprisonment.

Yet another tragic incident occurred in July that year when Zakir Hussain, a snake catcher, died after being bitten by a cobra he had rescued from a house in Navaikulam, Thiruvananthapuram. He reportedly carried out the rescue by grabbing the snake with his bare hands, as was the prevalent practice then, and displayed it proudly to onlookers. "The snake bit him on his right wrist and the venom rapidly spread through the vein," says Assistant Conservator of Forests, Muhammed Anwar Y.



An Indian cobra. KERALA FOREST DEPARTMENT

The success of SARPA

Kerala, with its dense tropical forests, extensive wetlands, and high population density, has for years grappled with the deadly threat of snakebites. The region is home to more than 130 snake species, of which around 10 are venomous, according to the Forest Department.

Snake envenoming, often occurring in agricultural fields, forested areas, and urban spaces, has always presented a major health challenge. Data from the State Health Department show that nearly 5,000 cases of snakebites are reported annually in the State. Yet, the actual figures could be far higher, with many snakebite incidents going unreported, particularly in rural areas. Besides the human toll, over the past decade, nearly 70% of the wildlife-related deaths reported in Kerala have been due to snakebites, according to the department.

The deaths of Uthra and Hussain and especially Sherin were turning points in the State's response to the crisis. "They prompted the Forest Department to launch SARPA (Snake Awareness, Rescue, and Protection App) in August 2020," Anwar points out. The mobile application connects people with trained rescuers, provides first-aid information on snakebites, and assists people with identifying snake species.

The senior forest official adds that the initiative is the first of its kind in India. With traditional rescue methods deemed unscientific and risky, snake rescuers and department officials are now trained in the scientific 'bag and pipe' method using safety gear. This is a technique that involves the use of a pipe inserted into a sturdy cloth bag to guide a snake to safety without direct physical contact. So far, nearly 6,200 people have received training under the programme. These include people from a cross-sections of society, including doctors, professors, advocates, IT professionals, casual labourers, and researchers.

Anwar, who is also the State nodal officer of SARPA, says the initiative has been successful. "Within five years, snakebite-related deaths have reduced from 123 in 2018-19 to 34 in 2024-25," he says. There have been 14 deaths so far during the ongoing fiscal, with the latest being reported on November 21, when an infant was bitten by a cobra in Malappuram. "Nearly 58,000 snakes have been safely rescued and released back into their natural habitats," he adds.

Pramod G. Krishnan, Chief Wildlife Warden, says the recent declaration of snakebite envenomation as a notifiable disease will be a "shot in the arm" for Kerala's goal of zero snakebite deaths by 2030. The Forest Department is now all set to launch the second phase of SARPA with expanded resources and training.

Environmental and lifestyle shifts have also contributed to fewer human-snake encounters. "The elimination of open defecation, near-universal LPG coverage and reduced dependence on firewood, and mechanised farming practices have all helped," says Dr. Jaideep C. Menon, Professor, Adult Cardiology and Public Health, Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences, Kochi.

Besides, the Local Self Government Department, the General Education Department, and other departments have adopted many precautionary measures. "Safety audits are being regularly conducted in schools before each academic year to identify and rectify potential hazards," Anwar says.

> Where fear and hostility once dominated, there is now a sense of awareness and respect for these often misunderstood reptiles.
>
> **SANDEEP DAS**
> Herpetologist

The State has also prioritised supplying safety equipment, including gumboots and gloves, to Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) workers, given the risks of snake encounters in rural regions.

Shyamala M., a MGNREGS worker in Palode, Thiruvananthapuram, points out that she is now given gloves while carrying out tasks such as clearing vegetation. "Last year, one of my colleagues was bitten by a hump-nosed pit viper. Incidents like that used to be common," she says.

Wayanad-based physician Dr. Rajesh Kumar M.P., who also serves as a SARPA educator, says efforts are being made to spread awareness about snakes and venomous species, particularly among the youth. SARPA Padam, an educational programme, is being rolled out across educational institutions. Awareness sessions are also conducted for groups such as Kudumbasree.

The hurdles that remain

Despite achieving significant progress in handling snakes and preventing snakebite-related fatalities, Kerala still faces challenges, however.

Nationally, snakebite mitigation largely centres around the Big Four snake species – the Indian cobra, the common krait, the Russell's viper, and the saw-scaled viper. However, in Kerala, the hump-nosed pit viper is increasingly responsible for snakebite cases. The viper is an endemic species to the Western Ghats.

Dr. Menon attributes the rise in hump-nosed pit viper bites to the shift in agricultural patterns from paddy cultivation to plantation-based cash crops, such as rubber and cardamom. The venomous species is known to prefer cool, moist environments, such as dense forests and plantations. It is mostly found in leaf litter and thick bushes.

The polyvalent ASV that is produced in India utilises venom from the Big Four. However, studies have shown that it is ineffective in neutralising the venom of the hump-nosed pit viper.

Dr. Menon, who also heads the ICMR-Collaborative Centre of Excellence in Snakebite, stresses the need to establish regional venom collecting centres. "This is necessary to improve antivenom production by developing both region-specific and species-specific antivenoms," he says.

At present, like most other States, Kerala relies on the ASV produced from the venom extracted by the Irula Snake Catchers' Industrial Cooperative Society in Chengalpattu, Tamil Nadu. The Irula are an indigenous community known for their traditional skills in snake and rat catching. In July 2025, while inaugurating the World Snake Day observance in Thiruvananthapuram, Forest Minister A.K. Saseendran announced plans to locally produce ASV to address the perceived ineffectiveness of current antivenoms due to geographical variation in venom potency.

Sustaining SARPA's momentum is another challenge, according to a senior forest official. Of the 3,300 trained and licensed snake rescuers, fewer than 1,000 remain active. "While many snake enthusiasts have undergone training in snake rescue, they are rarely available on short notice, given their daily jobs," the official says.

A rapid response team (RRT) member in Pathanamthitta points out that snake-related emergencies in the region are primarily handled by Forest Department personnel, largely due to the lack of licensed snake handlers in the area. While RRT teams have been effective in managing a range of emergencies, their resources are increasingly being stretched, particularly as forest fringe areas report a rise in conflicts involving other wild animals such as elephants and wild boars. To address the issue, the department is mulling steps to ensure at least one active licensed snake handler in each local body.

Persisting medical challenges too remain a significant barrier to effective snakebite management. "There is clinical hesitancy in administering ASV, primarily due to fear of anaphylaxis (a severe, life-threatening allergic reaction). This is often linked to inadequate training and insufficient infrastructure to manage complications," says a health officer.

Timely and effective pre-hospital care too is vital in reducing snakebite-related mortality. While emergency services exist, most snakebite victims still rely on private transport. Experts have called for strengthening ambulance services to include snakebite management protocols, and for implementing a hub-and-spoke model, where community health centres and taluk hospitals support a network of primary health centres.

Herpetologist Sandeep Das says Kerala's focus on snakebite mitigation in recent times has had a cascading effect on conservation efforts. "Snakes play a vital role in maintaining a healthy ecosystem by controlling rodent population. This in turn helps reduce the spread of zoonotic diseases," he says.

Das, who has been actively involved in SARPA and Snakepedia, a comprehensive database on snake species found in Kerala, adds that there has been a perceptible shift in public attitudes towards snakes. "Where fear and hostility once dominated, there is now a growing sense of awareness and respect for these often misunderstood reptiles. Increasingly, people are recognising their ecological importance and the need to respond to encounters with scientific knowledge, rather than fear-driven actions like killing them on sight," he says.

As the State pushes towards its goal of zero snakebites, the systemic overhaul sparked by a child's death continues to serve as both a cautionary tale and a catalyst for change.

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From Page One

Centre notifies four new Labour Codes

He said these laws will serve as a strong foundation for universal social security, minimum and timely payment of wages, safe workplaces, and remunerative opportunities.

Union Labour Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said the Codes will formalise employment, strengthen worker protections, and make the labour ecosystem simpler, safer and globally aligned.

The reforms include expanded rights and safety for women, including night-shift work, free annual health check-ups for workers aged over 40 years, pan-India ESIC coverage including hazardous process units, and a single registration, licence and return system. Additional systemic reforms include a national floor wage, gender-neutral work policy, inspector-cum-facilitator model for supportive compliance, faster dispute resolution through two-member tribunals, and a National Occupational Safety, Health (OSH) Board to harmonise safety standards. The reforms are aimed at streamlining contractual workers with the provision of "fixed term employees" which entails all benefits equal to those of permanent workers, including leave, medical, and social security.

The Codes have defined gig work, platform work, and aggregators for the first time.

The government will now initiate consultations to frame detailed rules and schemes.

SC issues notice to EC on Kerala's plea on SIR

The Communist Party of India (CPI) has also moved the apex court separately seeking not only the deferment of the SIR but also a judicial direction to quash the revision process. The petition filed by the CPI, through State secretary Binoy Viswam said the SIR was a deliberate plan to "weed out" registered voters who form the support base for Opposition parties.

"The unconstitutional and arbitrary SIR exercise affects not merely an isolated individual or class, but every registered elector in Kerala, thereby justifying invocation of Article 32 (writ jurisdiction) by a national political party whose members, cadres, supporters, and constituents Statewide stand to be disenfranchised," the plea said.

'Immense strain'

The CPI(M) filed its petition through State secretary M.V. Govindan. The plea highlighted that simultaneous conduct of the SIR and the elections to local bodies would cause an immense strain on human resources in Kerala.

The Indian Union Muslim League, which filed its petition through general secretary P.K. Kunhalikutty alleged that the move to hold the SIR in tandem with the elections to local bodies was "loaded with ulterior motives".

"The Model Code of Conduct has come into force in the State. It is at this stage and in the same period that the EC has stipulated SIR for Kerala. This means that the State and its machinery would be fully pre-occupied with the local body elections and, simultaneously, the SIR has to be also conducted. This creates a situation where the State machinery would not be in a position to conduct the SIR because of the pressure of work on both counts," the IUML contended.

Separately, Barabanki MP and Congress leader Tanuj Punia has challenged the conduct of SIR in Uttar Pradesh.

Govt. plans to unify security regulations for 250 seaports

A 'sovereign entity' will take over security at private ports; CISF will regulate 80 ports that handle export and import of goods overseeing access control, cargo screening and seafront patrolling

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

To plug the gaps in coastal security, the Union Government has designated the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) as the security regulator for over 250 seaports in the country, a senior government official said on Friday. The government intends to deploy a "sovereign entity" at private seaports which handle cargo, the official said bringing them under a uniform security architecture.

To begin with, at least 80 seaports that handle export and import of goods will be regulated by the CISF to manage access control, screening of cargo and patrolling of seafront. The seaports, which handle cargo, will see the presence of a "sovereign" security force.

The CISF currently provides security to all 13 major seaports across India.

Watchful eye: The Central Industrial Security Force currently secures 13 key ports in India. N. RAJESH

No uniform template

Presently, there is no uniform security template for seaports and at many places the security arrangements are being handled by private security agencies and local police.

Coastal security is among the topics that will be discussed at the Director Generals of Police conference organised by the Intelligence Bureau next week in Chhattisgarh. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will sit through the presentations made by police officers from across the country.

In 2023, following deliberations at the National Security Strategy Conference, guidelines were issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs to handle seaport security.

On November 18, the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways issued an order designating CISF as the Recognised Security Organisation for seaports under the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code.

"Just like the airports, CISF will be the lead agency for seaports. There are various gaps and with careful study and audit, the problem areas will be addressed. While the core functions at 80 airports that handle cargo will be with the CISF, the other 170 seaports will be secured phase-wise," said the official.

According to CISF's estimate, around 800-1,000 personnel are required to be deployed to secure each seaport. The CISF has requested MHA to sanction 10,000 additional personnel for deployment at 80 seaports.

Long way to go

"There is adequate deployment at land borders of the country but when it comes to coastal security we have a long way to go. The areas are open and security architecture is almost absent. Presently, no sovereign entity is there to secure the private sea ports," the official added.

This is an outcome of a Joint Committee of CISF and Director General Shipping, constituted in 2024, which made a comprehensive study of port security, conducted gap analysis and made recommendations on the remedial measures.

Under a hybrid security model, core security functions at all export-import ports will be carried out by CISF and non-core duties may be undertaken by State Police or Private Security Agencies.

Accused causing delay in Delhi riots case trial, say police

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Delhi Police argued that the prosecution could complete the trial in two years if the accused did not stonewall process

The Delhi Police on Friday vehemently objected to pleas for bail filed by former Jawaharlal Nehru University student leader Umar Khalid and others accused under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act in the 2020 Delhi riots 'larger conspiracy' case, claiming that they only cite the Constitution for the sake of getting bail.

"These are people with scant regard for the Constitution. Only for bail, they will quote Article 21 (fundamental right to life and personal liberty) of the Constitution," said Additional Solicitor General S.V. Raju, appearing for the Delhi Police. He was addressing a Bench headed by Justice Aravind Kumar in the concluding remarks of his response to the bail petitions.

Mr. Raju said the prosecution could complete the trial in two years if the accused did not delay the process. Mr. Khalid and others have sought bail on the grounds that they have been incarcerated for the past five years as undertrials. Mr. Raju countered, saying that the accused were deliberately orchestrating the delay of the criminal proceedings to use it as a ground to get bail.

The police played a video in the courtroom for the second consecutive day. On Friday, the video showed a CCTV grab of a mob walking down a street in what Mr. Raju identified as North-East Delhi during the February 2020 riots.

'Pre-planned violence'

The November 20 hearing had seen the police play excerpts from the speeches of Sharjeel Imam, an accused in the case. The speeches were shown to buttress the submissions of the police that Mr. Imam had instigated people as part of a conspiracy to achieve the goal of a regime change through violence. Mr. Raju said the violence was not spontaneous, but preplanned. He said there was video evidence of people collecting sticks from a designated place and testing their strength to use them as weapons.

IAF's Tejas crashes at Dubai Air Show; pilot dead

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

An Indian Air Force (IAF) Tejas fighter jet crashed during the Dubai Air Show on Friday , claiming the life of the pilot, Wing Commander Namansh Syal.

The accident occurred around 2 p.m. local time at the Al Makhtoum International Airport, the venue of the air show. Viral visuals on social media showed the jet spiralling out of control just above the ground, igniting on impact, and sliding for a short distance before being engulfed in flames. The pilot hailed from Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh.

Emergency teams at the site where Tejas aircraft crashed in Dubai on Friday, leading to the death of Wing Commander Namansh Syal (inset). X/@DXBMEDIAOFFICE, X/@SUKHUSUKHVINDER

In an official statement, the IAF said it deeply regrets the loss of life and expressed solidarity with the bereaved family. A Court of Inquiry has been ordered to determine the cause of the crash.

Expressing condolences, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said he was "deeply anguished at the loss of a brave and courageous IAF pilot. The nation stands firmly with the family in this tragic hour".

Friday was the last day of the air show that opened on November 17. The largest such event in the region, it showcased aerial and static displays of various commercial and military aircraft, UAVs, drones, and helicopters. The IAF contingent comprised three Tejas fighter jets and crew members. Nearly 100 air force teams from various countries took part.

This is the second Tejas accident in recent years. On March 12, 2024, a single-engine Tejas crashed near Jaisalmer.

The indigenous jet made its maiden flight 24 years ago on January 4, 2001. It was conceptualised in 1984. The indigenous single-engine 4.5 generation multirole fighter jet was christened 'Tejas' by then Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee in 2003.

U.S. sanctions firms, Indians involved in Iran's oil trade

Press Trust of India
NEW YORK/WASHINGTON

The Trump administration has sanctioned entities and individuals from India involved in sales of Iran's petroleum and petroleum products, saying the funds from this trade support Tehran's regional terrorist proxies and procure weapons systems that are "a direct threat" to the U.S.

The Departments of State and Treasury sanctioned shipping networks responsible for funding the Iranian regime's "malign activities" through illicit oil sales, as well as an airline and its affiliates that arm and supply Iran-backed terrorist groups.

Among those added to the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control Specially Designated Nationals List are Indian nationals Zair Husain Iqbal Husain Sayed, Zulfikar Hussain Rizvi Sayed and firms RN Ship Management Private Limited and Pune-based TR6 Petro India LLP.

The State Department is designating 17 entities, individuals, and vessels in several countries, including, but not limited to India, Panama, and the Seychelles, involved in Iran's petroleum and petroleum products sales, the administration said. The Department of the Treasury is designating 41 entities, individuals, vessels, and aircraft, intensifying its efforts against Iran's exports.

The funds generated by this oil trade are used to support Iran's regional terrorist proxies and procure weapons systems that pose a direct threat to U.S. forces and American allies, the State Department said on Thursday.

The U.S. will continue to act against the network of maritime service providers, dark fleet operators, and petroleum products traders involved in the transport of Iranian crude oil and petroleum products, it said.

ED conducts searches in Bengal, Jharkhand in 'coal theft' case

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday conducted coordinated searches at more than 40 locations in West Bengal and Jharkhand in connection with coal theft and mining cases in the two States.

The agency has so far seized over ₹10 crore in cash or precious metals as well as copies of 120 land deeds.

While cash and gold or jewellery totalling over ₹8 crore have been impounded from different locations in West Bengal, over ₹2.20 crore in cash and land deeds have been found in Jharkhand.

In Jharkhand, 18 locations linked to major cases of coal theft and smuggling, allegedly involving "Anil Goyal, Sanjay Udhyog, L.B. Singh and Amar Mandal" were covered by the agency, an official said.

Gold jewellery and cash seized by the ED during coordinated searches on Friday.

This apart, the ED searched about 24 locations in West Bengal's Durgapur, Purulia, Howrah, and Kolkata districts in the case of illegal mining, transportation and storage of coal.

"The persons whose premises are being covered include Narendra Kharka, Yudhistar Ghosh, Krishna Murari Kayal, Chinmayi Mondal, Rajkishore Yadav and others," said the official.

More than 100 ED officials and staffers were involved in the search operations against the "coal mafia".

Modi meets Australian PM, discusses cooperation in trade, defence and security

Press Trust of India
JOHANNESBURG

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday met his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese in Johannesburg and the two leaders took stock of progress in cooperation in diverse areas, including defence and security, critical minerals, trade and investment and people-to-people ties. Mr. Modi met Mr. Albanese hours after he arrived in South Africa to attend the G-20 Leaders' Summit.

"Both leaders expressed satisfaction on substantial deepening and diversification of our ties as we mark 5 years of – Comprehensive Strategic Partnership," Ministry of External Affairs Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said in a social media post.

"We have much to discuss, and our relationship is very strong," Mr. Albanese said. "I think the economic relationship we can strengthen further, and our defence and security ties are also very important going forward. And I look forward to our discussion today," he added.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi meets Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese in Johannesburg on Friday. ANI

"From trade, defence and security to education and clean energy our relationship is fundamentally important. Wonderful to catch up with my friend Prime Minister Modi ahead of the G20 Summit," he added.

Mr. Modi is expected to speak at all three main sessions of the summit, whose theme is 'Solidarity, Equality and Sustainability'. He is also expected to hold meetings with some leaders in Johannesburg on the sidelines of the summit and will attend the sixth IBSA summit, a trilateral grouping of India, Brazil, and South Africa.

Trump's absence makes G-20 'safe' for Modi, says Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress said on Friday that Prime Minister Narendra Modi was "safely and securely" attending the G-20 summit because U.S. President Donald Trump had chosen to boycott it.

In a post on X, Congress general secretary (communication), Jairam Ramesh wanted to know, if "huglomacy" with "my good friend" would be revived at the next summit of the grouping in America.

Mr. Modi embarked on a three-day visit to South Africa on Friday to attend the G-20 Summit in Johannesburg.

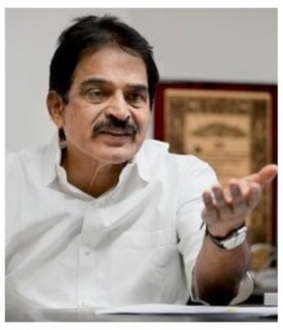
"The Prime Minister is attending the G-20 Summit in South Africa today and tomorrow. He is doing so safely and securely since President Trump and the U.S. are boycotting the summit. Recall that Mr. Modi didn't go to Kuala Lumpur a few days back for the India-ASEAN Summit since he would then have to come face-to-face with President Trump," Mr. Ramesh said on X.

The Congress leader pointed out that the G-20 Presidency rotates annually, and India took over from Indonesia in November 2023, and Brazil took charge in November 2024.

"Now South Africa is to hand over to the U.S., which will not be present. So the next G-20 Summit a year from now will be in the U.S. By then, presumably, India's trade (or) deal with the U.S. will be done. But if, over the past seven months, President Trump has claimed 61 times that he halted Operation Sindoor, imagine how many more times he will repeat those claims in the next twelve months. Will huglomacy with "my good friend" be revived, or will there be just handshakes, or will Mr. Modi decline? Time alone will tell," Mr. Ramesh said.

Congress to hold rally in Delhi against 'vote theft' on December 14

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI


K.C. Venugopal

The Congress rally against alleged vote *chori* (theft) will be held in Delhi on December 14 to highlight crores of signatures that the party has collected on the issue since August, Congress general secretary K.C. Venugopal said on Friday.

The rally, to be held at the Ramlila Maidan, has been named the "Vote *Chor*, *Gaddi Chhod*" rally, which translates to "vote thief, leave the throne".

The party had announced the rally on Tuesday after its top leadership, including Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, held a review meeting of the ongoing special intensive revision of electoral rolls in nine States and three Union Territories.

The rally will be entirely a Congress effort as the party wants to showcase its door-to-door signature campaign, which it started after Mr. Gandhi's first press conference on alleged vote *chori* in one of the Assembly segments in Bangalore Central Lok Sabha constituency. Ahead of the rally, State units are handing over signatures collected so far to the All India Congress Committee. On Thursday, former Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, handed over a document with 27 lakh signatures from Punjab to Mr. Venugopal.

However, party leaders denied that this was a sign that regional parties, which are constituents of the Opposition INDIA bloc, were seeking to distance themselves from the Congress after its debacle in the Bihar election.

Nitish cedes Home, key Bihar portfolios to BJP

Deputy CM and BJP leader Samrat Choudhary has been given Home Department, which Nitish held for two decades; Health, Agriculture, Revenue, Land, Mines, Industry portfolios also with BJP

Amarnath Tewary
PATNA

PM Narendra Modi greets Samrat Choudhary, who has been allocated the Home portfolio, during the swearing-in ceremony. PTI

For the first time in his two decades as Bihar Chief Minister, Nitish Kumar has given up the Home department and other key portfolios to his allies in the Bharatiya Janata Party, which emerged as the single largest party with 89 seats in the Assembly election earlier this month.

Mr. Kumar allocated portfolios to 26 Ministers on Friday.

One of his two Deputy Chief Ministers, BJP leader Samrat Choudhary, has been given the Home department. Other key departments that he has given up to BJP Ministers include Health, Agriculture, Revenue and Land Reforms, Mines, Industry, Road Construction, Urban Development, and Backward and Extremely Backward Class Welfare. The party has 14 members in the Cabinet.

The eight Ministers from Mr. Kumar's own party, the Janata Dal (United), were allocated the Water Resources, Building Construction, Energy, Rural Development, Rural Works, and Education departments, among others. The party won 85 seats in the Assembly election.

The Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas), led by Chirag Paswan, won 19 seats in the poll and has been given two Cabinet berths, in charge of Public Health Engineering and the Sugarcane Industry.

The Rashtriya Lok Morcha, led by Upendra Kushwaha, has been allocated the Panchayati Raj portfolio. This will be held by Mr. Kushwaha's son, Deepak Prakash, who had taken oath as Minister on November 20 without being a member of either the Upper or Lower Houses of the Bihar legislature, but is likely to be elected as a member of the State Legislative Council. Santosh Suman of the Hindustani Awam Morcha (Secular) has been given the Minor Water Resources portfolio.

"Since our Chief Minister Nitish Kumar*ji* has been an experienced leader holding the post of Chief Minister for such a long period, he knows how to utilise the potential of leaders and it is as per his experience, the Ministers have been allocated the portfolios," said JD(U) spokesperson Arvind Nishad.

Criminal records

The Association for Democratic Reforms said that 46% of the Ministers have criminal records, including 38% who have declared criminal records with serious charges. A whopping 88% of them are millionaires. "Altogether 63% Ministers are either graduates or above, and the average age of 79% of them is between 51 to 80 years, whereas 11% are women," it reported.

BJP slams Congress for awarding peace prize to Bachelet

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Sonia Gandhi presents the prize to Michelle Bachelet in New Delhi on November 19. ANI

The BJP on Friday criticised the Congress, describing it as an "army of traitors", after its Parliamentary Party Chairperson, Sonia Gandhi, presented the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament, and Development for 2024 to Michelle Bachelet, the former President of Chile and former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, on Wednesday.

At a press conference, BJP national spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia said the event showed that "anti-India blood" was "flowing in the veins" of Congress. He accused India's oldest party of operating like a "Maoist group", spreading its network even abroad.

He alleged that Ms. Bachelet attacked India's sovereignty through her remarks against the abrogation of Article 370 and her objection to the implementation of the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in Assam. "CAA (Citizenship Amendment Act) is a law passed by Parliament. It was challenged in the Supreme Court... At whose behest did the UN Human Rights Commission, headed by Ms. Michelle Bachelet, file a petition in the Supreme Court, saying that CAA would violate human rights?" asked Mr. Bhatia.

"The same UN body cannot see the persecution of minority Hindus, Sikhs, Christians in Pakistan, cannot see the destruction of temples and gurdwaras in Bangladesh, forced conversions and demographic change. Where was this body then...?" he asked.

Showing a purported picture of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi with Ms. Bachelet and prominent investor George Soros, "whose objective is to hurt India's interest, insult the people's mandate, and topple governments", he accused the Gandhis of pushing forward the "anti-India agenda" of such international forces.

"For Sonia Gandhi, her place of birth is supreme, not the Indian Constitution?" he said, stating that Ms. Gandhi should be "ashamed for insulting every citizen of the country by giving the award" to Ms. Bachelet.

Trinamool slams Shah's remarks

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

Trinamool Congress leaders on Friday reacted sharply to Home Minister Amit Shah's statements against political parties opposed to the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

"Mr. Amit Shah is an incapable Home Minister who failed to prevent the Pahalgam terror attack and the Delhi blasts. He is now talking about infiltrators. But who guards the borders, Mr. Amit Shah? It is you... If infiltrators are coming in, that is your failure and the failure of your Ministry," Trinamool leader Sagarika Ghose said.

She said the SIR exercise was aimed at disenfranchising citizens and causing enormous hardship and pain to "bonafide citizens of India".

SIR is a purification of voters' list, says Amit Shah

The Hindu Bureau
AHMEDABAD

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday declared the BJP-led NDA's victory in the Bihar election as a "rejection" of infiltrators in the country.

Speaking at the Border Security Force's (BSF) 61st Raising Day event in Bhuj, Mr. Shah described the Election Commission's special intensive revision (SIR) as a "purification" of the voter list. "Today, the BSF is engaged in preventing infiltration at all borders of the country. Stopping infiltration is not only essential for national security but also to protect the democratic system of the country from being polluted," he said.

Mr. Shah accused certain political groups of opposing the SIR only to keep infiltrators on electoral rolls. "Some parties are against the ongoing SIR as they want to make sure that names of infiltrators remain on the voters' list... SIR is a purification of voters' list... We will deport every single infiltrator from this country. This is our resolve," he said.

"Citizens will never favour those parties that support such illegal immigrants," he said.

Mr. Shah called for support to the SIR, adding, "The Bihar election was the mandate of the people of the country against infiltrators."

He lauded the BSF's work in combating Maoists, saying that in Chhattisgarh, "the BSF has forced 127 Maoists to surrender, arrested 73, and neutralised 22".

"We are determined to free the country from the Naxal problem by March 31, 2026," he said.

Mr. Shah said that "2,013 brave BSF soldiers have sacrificed their lives securing our borders". He highlighted the BSF's current strength and border responsibilities and said, "With 193 battalions and over 2.76 lakh personnel, the BSF guards more than 2,289 km of Pakistan border and 4,095 km of Bangladesh border."

He announced a plan to modernise the force within five years. "Next year will be focused on the welfare of BSF personnel and their families," he said.

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
(PROJECT BRANCH)

ADVERTISEMENT

Department of Water Resources, Government of Punjab, Chandigarh invites applications from Indian Nationals for the post of Chairman and Two posts of members of the Punjab Water Regulation and Development Authority (PWRDA) under section 3 of the Punjab Water Resources (Management and Regulation) Act, 2020. The last date for submission of application will be 20.12.2025.

For detailed advertisement and information regarding qualification, experience and other details, kindly visit Website **https//irrigation.punjab.gov.in** (Notice Board-Recruitment)

Dated, Chandigarh
20.11.2025
3621/12/2025-26/5221

Principal Secretary to Govt. of Punjab,
Department of Water Resources.

NASHIK MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, NASHIK
E-Tender Cell Department
E-Tender Notice No.27 (2025-26)
Corrigendum (Extension)

Nashik Municipal Corporation, Nashik (PWD Department) vide E-Tender Notice No.27 (Year 2025-26) invites bids for 01 to 74 number of works which will be displayed on the website www.mahatenders.gov.in. from dt. 18/11/2025 to 25/11/2025 up to 3.00 pm Read as dt.18/11/2025 to 01/12/2025 up to 3.00 pm. Last date for acceptance of tender will be dt. 01/12/2025.

Note - All further necessary notices / clarifications will be published on the online website.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
(Tender Cell)
Nashik Municipal Corporation.

जनसंपर्क/जा.क्र/३६२/२०२५ दि.२०/११/२०२५ गोदा प्रदुषण टाळा, भविष्य संभाळा.

BENGALURU SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT LIMITED
Office of the Deputy General Manager-4, 1st Floor, BBMP Building, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru-560052. Email:bswmlee4@gmail.com

No. DGM-4/ BSWML/ Tend/ 06/ 2025-26 **Date: 21.11.2025**

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER(IFT)
(Only through GOK KPP Portal Only)

1) The Deputy General Manager-4, Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited on behalf of the **Managing Director, BSWML, Bengaluru i**nvites fresh proposals from eligible bidders for the works detailed in the table below. The Bidders may submit tenders for works given in the table through KPP portal of the Government of Karnataka **(viz. https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** The Bidders are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 3 of the instructions to bidders to qualify for award of the contract.
2) Tender documents may be downloaded from the KPP portal of the Government of Karnataka from 24.11.2025.
3) Other details can be seen in the tender documents.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Approx. Amount put to bid (Rs. in Lakhs Including GST)	EMD (in Rs.)	Stipulated Completion Period (Including Monsoon Period)
1	Procurement of smaller mechanical sweeping machines 71 Numbers Battery Operated (EV) of capacity less than 2 cum for sweeping of local streets in dense populated areas such as Markets, Commercial Street in order to reduce the dust in GBA limits.	726.87	Rs.10,90,000/-	6 Months

Calendar of events: 1. Last Date for receipt of Tenders is **06.12.2025 upto 4.00 p.m. 2.** Last date for uploading queries on KPP portal **28.11.2025 upto 3.00 p.m. 3.** Pre-Bid Meeting under the Chairmanship of Chief Engineer & Chief General Manager (Tech), BSWML **on 28.11.2025 at 3:30 p.m at Meeting Hall,** BBMP Building, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru - 52. **4.** Date of Opening of Technical bids are **on 08.12.2025 by 4.30 p.m. or next working day. 5.** Opening of financial bids will be intimated to technically qualified bidders.

Terms and Conditions:

1. The Employer shall not be liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the Tenderers of any tender updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the Tenderers. It is the Tenderers responsibility to verify the KPP portal for the latest information related to the tender, E-mail address of the Helpdesk is **hphelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com** KPP portal help desk telephone numbers are: 080-22371090/22373788. The tenderer is required to ensure browser capability of the computer well in advance to the last date and time for receipt of the tenders. **2.** The employer shall not be responsible for non-accessibility of KPP portal due to internet connectivity issues and technical glitches. **3.** Any corrigendum/addendum will be published in the KPP portal only.

DIPR/CP/JA/3968/2025-26

Sd/-
Deputy General Manager-4, BSWML

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
 # 49, East Wing , 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road,
Bengaluru – 560 001. Phone No. 080-22265383. Website: www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-22/227/2025-26 **Date:20.11.2025**

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

Item rate Tenders under two cover bid system is invited as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from KPWD Class-III(Civil) & above Contractors who have got adequate financial resources, suitable construction equipments, technical manpower & sufficient past experience for the following works as per the schedule given below:

Name of the Work : (1) Reconstruction of Damaged Drain in Road No.01, 02, 05, 06 in Narasapura Industrial Area, Gadag District. **(2)** Improvement of damaged roads and construction of new drains at Plot No. 750 to 660/B (4th Cross), 1193 to 1178 (8th Cross Road), 1210 to 1217 and 1119 to 1115 of Kanabaragi Industrial Area, Belagavi District. **(3)** Improvement of damaged roads and construction of new drains on 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th roads and 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 9th side roads in Kanabargi Industrial Area, Belagavi District.

The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **09.12.2025 upto 04:00 pm.**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/CP/JA/3977/2025-26

Sd/-
Chief Engineer - 2

कार्यालय नगर पालिका मण्डल, आबूरोड जिला-सिरोही (राज)
Phone-02974-222270 E-Mail- eoaburoad@gmail.com

क्रमांकः–एबीआर / एमयूएन / एसबीएम / 2025 / 3950 दिनांक 18.11.2025

–: ई–निविदा सूचना (E-NIT /2025-26) :–

नगरपालिका आबूरोड द्वारा पालिका क्षैत्र में स्वच्छ भारत अभियान के तहत् निम्न कार्य की ई – निविदा आमंत्रित की गई जिसकी कुल 853.66 राशि लाख रू. निविदा संबंधी जानकारी व अन्य शर्तें पालिका कार्यालय एवं वेबसाईट **http//:eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** व **http//:sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** से डाउनलोड किया जा सकताहै। ईच्छुक संवेदको को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाईट **http//:eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** पर पंजीकृत होना आवश्यक है।

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कार्यो कि कुल लागत	853.66 लाख
NIB Code	DLB2526A8186
UBN No	DLB2526WLRC24523

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अध्यक्ष
नगरपालिका, आबूरोड

अधिशाषी अधिकारी
नगरपालिका, आबूरोड

राज.संवाद / सी / 25 / 14214

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly Owned Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)
(Through KPP Portal)

BESCOM invites tender vide **Enquiry No. BESCOM/2025-26/ IND0186 dated 21.11.2025** for Augmentation and Comprehensive Maintenance of Existing Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) system for HT installations in RAPDRP areas of BESCOM for five years.

Bid documents available on **25.11.2025, 5.00PM onwards.** Last date for bid submission: **24.12.2025, 4.00PM.** Opening of bid document: **26.12.2025, 4.30PM.**

The Tender can be obtained through KPPP Portal website: **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Aspiring Bidders need to register on KPPP portal. Further Bidders can take assistance with KPPP Helpdesk contact numbers (080-46010000, 080-68948777) or email at support@eprochelpdesk.com.

Sd/-
General Manager, (ICT&MIS),
BESCOM, 5th Floor, Belaku Bhavana,
K. R. Circle, Bengaluru-560001.

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INBRIEF

COVID-19 drug case against Gambhir, others quashed

The Delhi High Court on Friday quashed a criminal case against Indian cricket team coach Gautam Gambhir, his foundation, and others for allegedly illegally stocking and distributing COVID-19 drugs during the pandemic in 2021. The court passed the order on a plea challenging the summons issued by a trial court to Mr. Gambhir, his wife, mother, and the foundation, seeking quashing of the criminal complaint. In 2021, the Delhi government's Drug Control Department had filed a complaint against Mr. Gambhir – then MP from east Delhi, his foundation, its CEO Aprajita Singh, and others, under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act.

Tremors felt in West Bengal and northeastern States

Tremors were felt across West Bengal and parts of the northeastern region on Friday morning as an earthquake of 5.7 magnitude jolted Narsingdi in Bangladesh, the National Centre for Seismology said. No casualties or major damages have been reported. Political parties in West Bengal took this opportunity to trade sharp barbs online. "West Bengal just felt earthquake tremors. @MamataOfficial, was it because of SIR?" the BJP posted on X. In response, the Trinamool Congress said, "It's actually the ground shaking beneath the feet of @BJP4Bengal as they stare at an imminent defeat in the 2026 Assembly elections."

Assam groups hold protest for Bodo Accord implementation

Members of organisations specific to Assam's Bodoland Territorial Region staged a sit-in at New Delhi's Jantar Mantar on Friday to demand time-bound implementation of the 2020 Bodo Peace Accord and the passage of the 125th Constitutional Amendment Bill. The protest was part of a two-day "national movement" by several organisations and individuals from the northeastern region. It was led by the All Bodo Students' Union in association with the United Boro People's Organisation and Ex-NDBF Welfare Association. Major demands include the revision of Article 280 and the Sixth Schedule to enhance the financial autonomy of the tribal councils.

Maoist leader orchestrated Hidma encounter: ex-MLA

Manish Kunjam, a tribal leader from Bastar and a former MLA, on Friday said the encounter in which top Maoist commander Madvi Hidma was killed in Andhra Pradesh on November 18 was "staged" and "orchestrated" by senior Maoist leader Devji. Speaking to journalists in Sukma district, Mr. Kunjam said Devji had used this as an "advantage to build his own image and gain political mileage". "Two days after the death of Hidma, 50 people (Maoists) were arrested in Andhra Pradesh. Will 50 people go there to get arrested? Most of them are local boys from Sukma and Bijapur. The entire game was planned by Devji," said Mr. Kunjam.

PAC questions FSSAI on sale of adulterated food items

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) headed by senior Congress leader K.C. Venugopal on Friday held a meeting with officials from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) to discuss a range of issues related to food safety and quality control.

Health Secretary Punya Salila Srivastava and FSSAI CEO Rajit Punhani were present at the meeting.

Members of the committee raised serious concerns over the unchecked sale of adulterated goods, particularly adulterated sweets being sold during the festive season. They pointed out that the practice continues despite repeated public warnings and enforcement drives.

The panel also drew attention to the Comptroller and Auditor General's (CAG) report, which highlighted an acute shortage of manpower within the FSSAI.

Following the deliberations, the PAC directed both the Health Ministry and the FSSAI to submit detailed replies to the issues raised.

COP30 draft text skips mention of fossil fuel use

A flashpoint has emerged in the COP with developing countries opposing the inclusion of language that commits countries to a timeline on eliminating fossil fuel from their economies

Jacob Koshy
BELEM

With the fires at the venue doused, new flashpoints emerged early on Friday – officially, the last day of the climate talks in Brazil's Belem – after a draft text skipped mention of fossil fuels.

The Conference of Parties (COP) proceedings usually conclude with a 'cover text', or a consensus political statement issued by the COP Presidency, in this case led by Brazilian diplomat André Lago, which lays out the united resolution by Parties (countries signatory to Paris Agreement) to take action on climate change.

A flashpoint had been emerging over the past 10 days, with developing countries, including some petro-states, insistent on not including language that commits countries to a timeline on eliminating fossil fuel from their economies.

Developed countries have insisted that specifying such a path is critical to keep the planet from overheating beyond 1.5 degrees Celsius by the century-end, and that the finance necessary for adapting to climate change and transitioning away from fossil fuel use must be mobilised from private and public sources.

André Corrêa do Lago, COP30 president, speaks during a plenary session at the COP30 UN Climate Summit on Friday. AP

"This is in no way close to the ambition we need on mitigation. We are disappointed with the text currently on the table. We are willing to be ambitious on adaptation, but we would like to make clear that any language on finance should squarely be within the commitment reached last year on the New Collective Quantified Goal," Wopke Hoekstra, European Commissioner for Climate, said.

A plenary session discussing the latest cover text is expected later on Friday prior to which nearly 80 countries, pitching for the language on fossil fuel, are expected to voice dissatisfaction with the text. This session is an occasion for countries to publicly voice their support to, or disappointment with, the Presidency. "At COP30, the Global South is not asking for favours, it is asking for the basic foundations needed to deliver a fair and effective global climate response. Climate action must be underpinned by equity, fair rules and reliable support," Arunabha Ghosh, director-general, Council on Energy Environment and Water, said.

"The proposed high-level ministerial round-table to reflect on the implementation of the NCQG is a welcome step... While the new dialogues on trade mark a progress, they should ensure that developing economies are protected from climate-linked trade barriers," he added.

Fire breaks out at COP30 venue

A large fire broke out in the main area of the COP30 venue in Belem, Brazil, on Thursday.

"The fire department and UN security officers responded swiftly, and the fire was controlled in approximately six minutes. People were evacuated safely," the COP 30 Presidency said in a statement. "Thirteen individuals were treated on site for smoke inhalation," it said.

BJP pushing tribals into a crisis, says Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Friday accused the BJP of pursuing a deliberate strategy to dilute reservation and push tribals into a "crisis". It cited the Madhya Pradesh Civil Judge Exam 2022.

Addressing a press conference at the party headquarters, Adivasi Congress chairman Vikrant Bhuria demanded that the judicial exams be withdrawn and a high-level probe be launched into why a single tribal candidate was not selected despite constitutionally mandated quotas.

Mr. Bhuria alleged that the BJP government was systematically undermining tribal rights. "The BJP government is orchestrating the Great Indian Tribal Crisis across the country. Under BJP rule, tribal communities are being devastated. Tribal people are not receiving justice and are struggling even to preserve their identity. The lands of tribal communities are being seized," he alleged.

"We are saying this because in the results of the 2022 Civil Judge exam in Madhya Pradesh, despite reservation, the selection of tribal candidates is zero," Mr. Bhuria added.

Guidelines defining 'obscenity' in online content proposed

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

The Union government has proposed guidelines defining "obscenity" and other disallowed content online in the Information Technology Rules, 2021, which govern social media companies and OTT streaming platforms, in a note for filing in the Supreme Court seen by *The Hindu*.

The proposal includes language that applies to all digital content – social media platforms, OTT streaming services, and digital news platforms – with broad restrictions incorporated from the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995.

The note was served this week to litigants in an ongoing case by an advocate for the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, after the Supreme Court urged the government earlier this year to frame guidelines on online content.

The IT Rules already contain language requiring social media platforms to disallow content that "is obscene, pornographic, paedophilic, invasive of another's privacy including bodily privacy, insulting or harassing on the basis of gender, racially or ethnically objectionable, relating or encouraging money laundering or gambling."

Now, the amendment proposed by the Union government – if the Supreme Court approves it – would explicitly define "obscene digital content", and add language to the rules' Code of Ethics that are based on Section 67 of the IT Act, 2000, the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and its rules, and the Indian Penal Code, the precursor to the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. Section 67 of the IT Act would also be the "legal basis" for this amendment, the Ministry said.

"This is exactly the Cable TV Programme Code, copied to the digital medium," Mishi Choudhary, founder of the digital rights advocacy Software Freedom Law Centre, India (SFLC), said after reviewing the note. "This is the most sweeping regulatory shift India has ever proposed for digital content, which had wide restraints previously."

The proposal may apply to all digital content on social media websites and OTT platforms.

A senior official told *The Hindu* that the proposal would only be taken forward after the court comments on it, and following a public consultation.

Cinematograph Act

For OTT streaming platforms at least, the proposal would require content to be compliant with the Cinematograph Act, 1952 and be fit for "public exhibition". The official said that this particular condition would only be applicable to streaming services and not social media. The proposed amendment does not contain this demarcation.

The Code of Ethics, which is a part of the IT Rules that has been governing news platforms and "curated" content platforms like Netflix and Amazon Prime Video, would have an overarching "Obscenity" heading that would tell online platforms to avoid content that offends "good taste or decency", presents "criminality as desirable", shows "indecent, vulgar, suggestive, repulsive or offensive themes", or has "visuals or words which reflect a slandering, ironical and snobbish attitude in the portrayal of certain ethnic, linguistic and regional groups". There are seventeen such restrictions.

Rules 9(1) and 9(3) of the IT Rules, which seek to enforce the existing code of ethics for streaming services and news platforms, have been stayed by the Bombay High Court, in a case that is now being heard in the Delhi High Court, along with other challenges to the IT Rules. The note by the Information and Broadcasting Ministry acknowledges that this judicial stay is still active. Ms. Choudhary said the note sought to "revive" the stayed rules.

"The Executive has been irregularly using IT Rules to broaden its powers and establishing a *de facto* system, which, if the courts heard the petitions, would be found unconstitutional," Ms. Choudhary said. "Just because the courts are not swift in their decision-making does not mean this structure is acceptable."

"In order to ascertain whether a content has violated the Code or not, the 'Community Standard Test' prescribed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of *Aveek Sarkar v. State of West Bengal* may be used," the proposal says in an explanation, "which states that the content satisfies the test if a person, having contemporary community standards does not believe that the work appeals or pleases to the lustful or voyeuristic interest and this Code shall not be applicable to content which has literary, scientific, artistic or political value in its entirety."

In spite of this explanation, Ms. Choudhary said, the note "expands the definition to include everything under the sun, from Rule 6 of Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act to all that the government disapproves of".

The proposal came in a case that followed the controversy around comedian Samay Raina, whose YouTube channel was the subject of intense backlash after a joke featuring an incestuous hypothetical dilemma in a paywalled part of Mr. Raina's channel, made by the social media influencer Ranveer Allahabadia, went viral.

TH CROSSWORD + 14646

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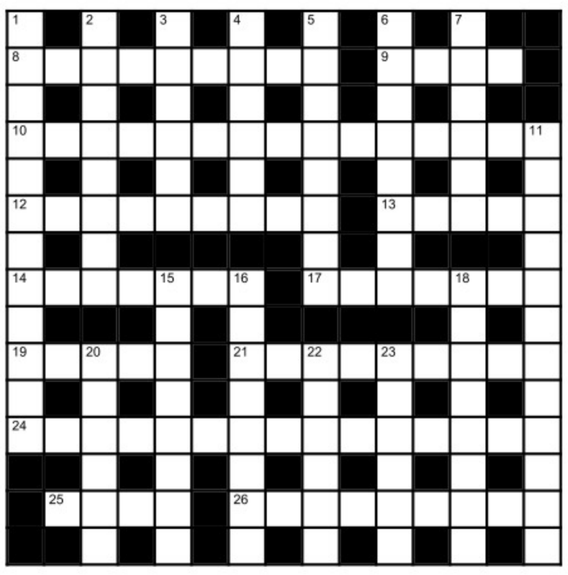
SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 Adult pigs consuming nuts lying around water (5,4)
9 Japanese box, endless quarrel behind all the rage (4)
10 Novel after old mill hands experience difficulties (4,2,4,5)
12 Transport reflecting luxury, transport delivering queen (9)
13 China dogging north eastern state (5)
14 Silly jerk follows cricket match involving one over (7)
17 Melancholy echo left one in prison taken aback (7)
19 Set of characters in Balkan jihadi (5)
21 Symbol of negativity in America on money lapse limiting Government (5,4)
24 Nothing too big we fancy for now (2,2,5,2,4)
25 Hit hard if one's lost faith (4)
26 Balding wicket, ultimately hard batting when facing leg spinner (4,2,3)

Down

1 Irregular track if felt pens finally smudge drawing paper? (6,6)
2 International Muslim leader retires to eat ordinary cheese (8)
3 Companion caught in topless haunt (6)
4 Victory laps appeal to hearts inwardly (6)
5 Rolling at any point by controlling independent suspension (8)
6 First ball nails length (8)
7 Cleaner operation supporting planet leaving a mark (3,3)
11 Designed to a T, such integrated circuits oddly lack sophistication in a way (7,5)
15 Slender leg topped by hickey (8)
16 Inherit money, Tax Officer takes half of same (4,4)
18 Fool admitted to team had to open (8)
20 Pick the Spanish books in trips (6)
22 Gill's head? (6)
23 Instrument to detect bleep, say on the radio (6)

SUDOKU

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Solution to previous puzzle

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Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

2	5	1	9	8	7	6	3	4
3	9	6	4	2	1	8	5	7
4	8	7	5	6	3	9	2	1
1	6	5	7	4	8	2	9	3
9	7	2	3	5	6	1	4	8
8	3	4	2	1	9	5	7	6
5	2	8	6	7	4	3	1	9
7	1	9	8	3	5	4	6	2
6	4	3	1	9	2	7	8	5

FAITH

Power of Tirupati prasad

It is part of our socio-cultural and religious leaning to make offerings in places of worship, in whatever manner that suits each of us. Based on the belief that God blesses such offerings, which are subsequently shared among devotees, these offerings or *prasad* are the most sought after. While Palani Panchamritam and Tirupati laddu are world famous, other offerings in famous temples have even made believers of mockers. There are numerous examples to support the same, said P. Swaminathan. Such anecdotal experiences reinforce the belief that Perumal takes care of those who repose faith in Him.

Sir Thomas Munroe was a highly placed government official, whose job was to collect tax during the British era. As Chittoor Collector, whenever he went to the Sri Venkatachalapathy temple in Tirumala, he always made it a point to mock the devotees consuming temple *prasad*. Soon, he began to experience severe stomach discomfort and pain, which interfered with his normal life. No medicine could offer relief, let alone cure him. A priest from the Venkatachalapathy temple suggested he try the temple *prasad* and pray to Him for cure. "One should partake of the *prasad* only if one has faith in Him," he said.

Desperate for relief, Munroe agreed and reverentially ate the *Venn Pongal* brought by the priest after praying to Perumal to help Munroe. The latter found himself cured forthwith. In gratitude, he set up an endowment, whereby the entire income from Kotabayalu in Vayalpad taluk of Chittoor district was earmarked to cover the cost of *Venn Pongal* offering to the deity, every day. Munroe Gangalam continues to be effected to this day.

INBRIEF

RBI, ECB agree to start UPI, TIPS link realisation phase

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and NPCI International Payments Ltd. (NIPL) along with the European Central Bank (ECB) have agreed to start the realisation phase for UPI-TIPS link. This is to connect Unified Payments Interface (UPI) with the TARGET Instant Payment Settlement (TIPS), the instant payment system operated by the Eurosystem. This would aid cross-border remittances between India and Euro Area and benefit users of both jurisdictions, RBI said.

Maruti invests ₹2 crore in start-up Ravity Software

Maruti Suzuki India Ltd announced an investment of almost ₹2 crore in start-up Ravity Software Solutions Private Ltd. for an equity stake of more than 7.84% through Maruti Suzuki Innovation Fund. Ravity specialises in providing connected mobility insights. This is the third investment under the fund. Earlier, the company had invested almost ₹2 crore each in Amlgo Labs Private Ltd. and Sociograph Solutions Private Ltd. in June 2022.

SEBI board may review MF, stock broker rules on Dec. 17

SEBI plans to undertake a comprehensive review of its mutual fund and stock broker regulations at its board meeting next month, as the markets regulator seeks to make these frameworks more relevant and efficient, a senior official said on Friday. The issues will be taken up at the board meeting scheduled for December 17, the official added. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has already released consultation papers on both sets of regulations. PTI

Insinuations of coup 'absurd', Khambata tells Tata Trusts

While explaining he, his fellow trustees neither intended to carry out a board takeover nor suggested one, Khambata called for entire board to set aside personal feelings and work unitedly

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

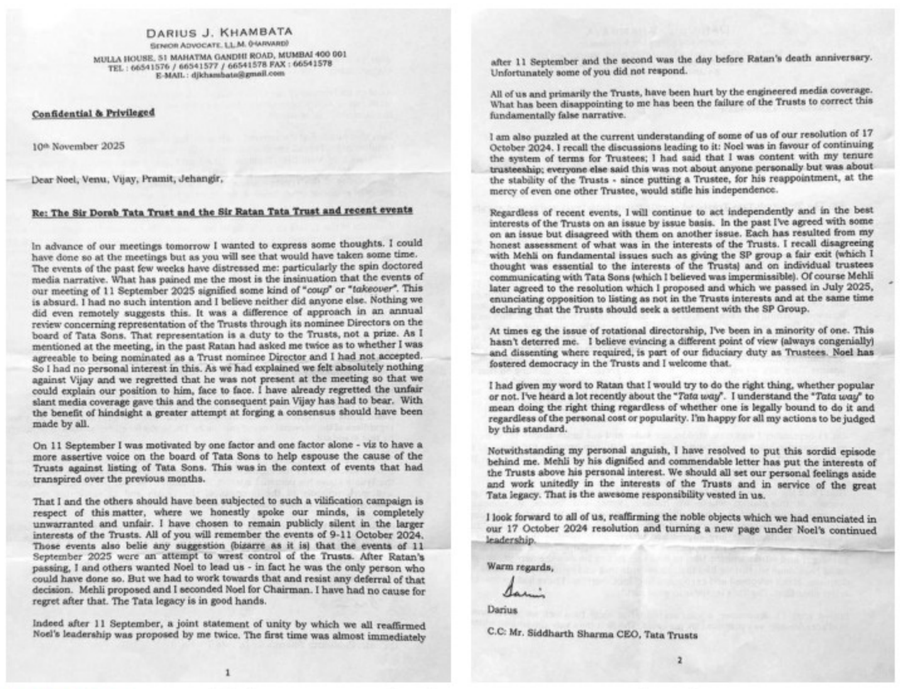
Insinuations that the Mehli Mistry-led group of trustees on the board of Tata Trusts had attempted a coup or takeover on September 11, are 'absurd,' board member and life trustee Darius J. Khambata wrote in a recent letter to the board of the Tata Trusts.

Mr. Khambata added neither did he nor anyone else have any intention to carry out such an act, nor did they 'even remotely suggest this.' Noting what was involved was 'a difference of approach' on the issue of 'representation of the Trusts through its nominee directors on the board of Tata Sons,' he added, "representation is a duty to the Trusts, not a prize."

In his letter, dated November 10 and reviewed by *The Hindu*, Mr. Khambata did, however, acknowledge that "a greater attempt at forging a consensus should have been made by all," referring to the split in the Tata Trusts board.

The events of September 11, pertained to a board vote on whether Vijay Singh (77) should continue as a nominee director on the board of Tata Sons, the holding company of the Tata Group.

The vote had become necessary following the introduction of a rule after the demise of Ratan Tata, requiring the annual reappointment of nominees above the age of 75.



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Confidential & Privileged

10th November 2025

Dear Noel, Venu, Vijay, Pramit, Jehangir,

Re: The Sir Dorab Tata Trust and the Sir Ratan Tata Trust and recent events

In advance of our meetings tomorrow I wanted to express some thoughts. I could have done so at the meetings but as you will see that would have taken some time. The events of the past few weeks have distressed me: particularly the spin doctored media narrative. What has pained me the most is the insinuation that the events of our meeting of 11 September 2025 signified some kind of "*coup*" or "*takeover*". This is absurd. I had no such intention and I believe neither did anyone else. Nothing we did even remotely suggests this. It was a difference of approach in an annual review concerning representation of the Trusts through its nominee Directors on the board of Tata Sons. That representation is a duty to the Trusts, not a prize. As I mentioned at the meeting, in the past Ratan had asked me twice as to whether I was agreeable to being nominated as a Trust nominee Director and I had not accepted. So I had no personal interest in this. As we had explained we felt absolutely nothing against Vijay and we regretted that he was not present at the meeting so that we could explain our position to him, face to face. I have already regretted the unfair slant media coverage gave this and the consequent pain Vijay has had to bear. With the benefit of hindsight a greater attempt at forging a consensus should have been made by all.

On 11 September I was motivated by one factor and one factor alone - viz to have a more assertive voice on the board of Tata Sons to help espouse the cause of the Trusts against listing of Tata Sons. This was in the context of events that had transpired over the previous months.

That I and the others should have been subjected to such a vilification campaign is respect of this matter, where we honestly spoke our minds, is completely unwarranted and unfair. I have chosen to remain publicly silent in the larger interests of the Trusts. All of you will remember the events of 9-11 October 2024. Those events also belie any suggestion (bizarre as it is) that the events of 11 September 2025 were an attempt to wrest control of the Trusts. After Ratan's passing, I and others wanted Noel to lead us - in fact he was the only person who could have done so. But we had to work towards that and resist any deferral of that decision. Mehli proposed and I seconded Noel for Chairman. I have had no cause for regret after that. The Tata legacy is in good hands.

Indeed after 11 September, a joint statement of unity by which we all reaffirmed Noel's leadership was proposed by me twice. The first time was almost immediately

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after 11 September and the second was the day before Ratan's death anniversary. Unfortunately some of you did not respond.

All of us and primarily the Trusts, have been hurt by the engineered media coverage. What has been disappointing to me has been the failure of the Trusts to correct this fundamentally false narrative.

I am also puzzled at the current understanding of some of us of our resolution of 17 October 2024. I recall the discussions leading to it: Noel was in favour of continuing the system of terms for Trustees; I had said that I was content with my tenure trusteeship; everyone else said this was not about anyone personally but was about the stability of the Trusts - since putting a Trustee, for his reappointment, at the mercy of even one other Trustee, would stifle his independence.

Regardless of recent events, I will continue to act independently and in the best interests of the Trusts on an issue by issue basis. In the past I've agreed with some on an issue but disagreed with them on another issue. Each has resulted from my honest assessment of what was in the interests of the Trusts. I recall disagreeing with Mehli on fundamental issues such as giving the SP group a fair exit (which I thought was essential to the interests of the Trusts) and on individual trustees communicating with Tata Sons (which I believed was impermissible). Of course Mehli later agreed to the resolution which I proposed and which we passed in July 2025, enunciating opposition to listing as not in the Trusts interests and at the same time declaring that the Trusts should seek a settlement with the SP Group.

At times eg the issue of rotational directorship, I've been in a minority of one. This hasn't deterred me. I believe evincing a different point of view (always congenially) and dissenting where required, is part of our fiduciary duty as Trustees. Noel has fostered democracy in the Trusts and I welcome that.

I had given my word to Ratan that I would try to do the right thing, whether popular or not. I've heard a lot recently about the "*Tata way*". I understand the "*Tata way*" to mean doing the right thing regardless of whether one is legally bound to do it and regardless of the personal cost or popularity. I'm happy for all my actions to be judged by this standard.

Notwithstanding my personal anguish, I have resolved to put this sordid episode behind me. Mehli by his dignified and commendable letter has put the interests of the Trusts above his personal interest. We should all set our personal feelings aside and work unitedly in the interests of the Trusts and in service of the great Tata legacy. That is the awesome responsibility vested in us.

I look forward to all of us, reaffirming the noble objects which we had enunciated in our 17 October 2024 resolution and turning a new page under Noel's continued leadership.

Warm regards,

Darius

C.C: Mr. Siddharth Sharma CEO, Tata Trusts

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Making clear: A copy of the letter Darius J. Khambata wrote to Tata Trusts board.

'Pained at insinuation'

The controversy over a purported 'coup' arose because the vote – usually a unanimous one – was defeated, with four members opposing Mr. Singh's renewal. The four to vote against the renewal were Mehli Mistry, Pramit Jhaveri, Jehangir HC Jehangir, and Mr. Khambata.

"The events of the past few weeks have distressed me: particularly the spin doctored media narrative," Mr. Khambata wrote.

"What has pained me the most is the insinuation that the events of our meeting of 11 September signified some kind of 'coup' or 'takeover,' Mr. Khambata added. "This is absurd. I had no such intention and I believe neither did anyone else. Nothing we did even remotely suggests this."

At the heart of the issue between the two camps was a difference of opinion on how the Tata Trusts should be governed and on the representation of the Trusts through nominee directors on Tata Sons board.

The trustees led by Tata Trusts chairman Noel Tata, Venu Srinivasan and Mr. Singh, were reportedly of the opinion that governance must continue as has been done so far: through continuity and consensus-based decision-making. The trustees led by Mr. Mistry, however, felt differently.

"It [the vote of September 11] was a difference of approach in an annual review concerning representation of the Trusts through its nominee directors on the board of Tata Sons," Mr. Khambata wrote.

"On 11 September I was motivated by one factor and one factor alone - viz to have a more assertive voice on the board of Tata Sons to help espouse the cause of the Trusts against listing of Tata Sons."

Flying high: It plans to grow to a fleet size of more than 600 aircraft by 2030 has an order book of 1,070 aircraft .REUTERS

IndiGo to purchase aircraft for ₹7,294 cr. to reduce forex risk

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

Budget carrier IndiGo has approved a capital investment of ₹7,294 crore to enable ownership of their aircraft instead of leasing.

"IndiGo has historically maintained a fleet structure predominantly reliant on operating leases. In recent years, the organisation has undertaken a strategic development towards a more balanced ownership structure and diversified forms of financing," the airline explained its decision, adding that the move will enable "prudent capital allocation and sustainable value creation for all stakeholders."

Cut forex risk

The move is expected to shield the airline from foreign exchange fluctuations, as lease payments are typically dollar-denominated. Until now IndiGo has relied on the sale and leaseback model for many of its aircraft, whereby it sells new planes to leasing companies and immediately leases them back. This approach allows airlines to maintain liquidity.

The airline's CFO Gaurav Negi recently said that the airline plans to increase ownership of aircraft to 30-40% of its fleet by 2030.

In the quarter ended September the airline reported a loss of ₹2,582 crore, widening by 161% compared with the same time last year, which the airline attributed to foreign exchange rate fluctuations impacting dollar-based future obligations, due to lease liabilities and maintenance obligations denominated in U.S. dollars.

The airline currently has nearly 430 aircraft in its fleet. It has been adding an aircraft a week for the past many years and will soon start taking deliveries of A321 XLRs and its first widebodies in A350s from 2027. It plans to grow to a fleet size of more than 600 aircraft by 2030 and has an order book of 1,070 aircraft, including 70 A350s.

Rupee goes for free fall, slips over 89 on trade uncertainties

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

The Indian Rupee (INR) on Friday depreciated to it's lifetime low of 89.6650 against the U.S. Dollar compared with it's previous close of 88.6850, down 98 paise due to negative cues from global and domestic equity markets owing to trade-related concerns, forex analysts said.

This is the single day biggest fall of the INR in over three months, they said.

Anindya Banerjee, head of research - currency, commodity and interest rate derivatives said, "Global risk-off sentiment has spilled into currency markets after a sharp overnight sell-off in cryptocurrencies and AI-linked technology stocks. The sudden unwinding of risk trades is weighing on emerging-market currencies, including the Indian Rupee."

Uncertainty around India–U.S. trade deal hit sentiment.

"Adding to the pressure is the lingering uncertainty around the proposed India-U.S. trade deal, which markets had hoped would offer clarity on the bilateral economic outlook. With no firm timelines emerging, sentiment remains fragile," he said.

"USD/INR broke decisively above 89.00, a level many importers and dealers believed the RBI would defend," he added.

Afghan Minister urges expanded use of Chabahar port

Saptaparno Ghosh
NEW DELHI

"We request the Indian government to help ensure the trade route from Chabahar Port is functional, so that trade remains competitive," Afghanistan's Acting Commerce and Industries Minister Alhaj Nooruddin Azizi said.

Representing a business delegation at an event of the industry body PHD Chamber of Commerce Industry (PHDCCI), he called upon the Indian private sector to make further investments in the route to ensure the port's success.

The use of Chabahar port in Iran is emerging as imperative for the landlocked country to circumvent the use of routes through Pakistan following tensions between the two nations in recent months.

Alhaj Nooruddin Azizi

Call to firms

Mr. Azizi also called upon the Indian private sector to invest in Afghanistan. He mentioned his government was considering to accord a five-year exemption from paying taxes to new industries being set up in Afghanistan. He stated the government in Kabul was already giving preferential treatment in tariffs for raw materials and machinery relevant to their domestic industries.

Mentioning about Chabahar Port, Mr. Azizi said the Afghan government was open to negotiations with U.S. to ensure continued operationality.

Air freight corridor

Speaking at the same event, M. Anand Prakash, Joint Secretary (PAI) at India's Ministry of External Affairs informed the air freight corridor between Kabul and Delhi and between Kabul and Amritsar have been "activated" with cargo flights expected to commence "very soon".

"This will significantly enhance air connectivity and strengthen commercial flights," he said.

Emirates airline set to hire hundreds of pilots in 2026

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

Dubai-based Emirates airline will recruit pilots in the 'three digits' in the financial year starting April 2026 and undertake an expansion of its flight training infrastructure by adding more simulators, according to a senior airline official.

"Yes, there is an industry shortage. A high demand for pilots exists and will continue to exist," Captain Bader Al Marzooqi, senior vice-president of flight training at Emirates said in response to a question on the chronic shortage of pilots globally.

But he explained that Emirates recruitment teams anticipate future demands six months ahead.

The airline aims to hire 1,500 pilots in 2025 and 2026, of which 550 are planned for 2025.

In the years between 2022 and 2025, the airline hired 2,000 pilots

'Met hiring target'

"Our recruitment team has been successful in attracting pilots, and six months before the financial year ends, we have already met our hiring target through March. In addition, we have a pool of shortlisted pilots ready for the next financial year, during which we plan to offer jobs in three digits," Mr. Marzooqi added.

Ruling skies: Emirates has ordered 65 additional Boeing 777X aircraft and 8 Airbus A350-900 to expand its fleet of 269 aircraft. AP

Pilots lost to rivals

The airline currently has 4,800 pilots on its rolls. It has lost pilots in single digits to rivals in Saudi Arabia, where the brand new full service carrier Riyadh Air started flight operations last month.

He was speaking to journalists on a visit to the airline's new flight crew training centre in Dubai built with an investment of $135 million and spread across 63,318 square feet.

The hiring plans are in step with the airline's growing aircraft order.

At the Dubai Airshow that opened on November 17, the airline has ordered 65 additional Boeing 777X aircraft and 8 Airbus A350-900 to expand its fleet of 269 aircraft.

Training infrastructure

The airline will continue expanding training infrastructure. Its existing 13 simulators include six Boeing 777-300ER, two Airbus A350 and five A380 units. To this, Emirates will add Boeing 777 simulator, an additional A350 simulator, and its first Boeing 777-9 simulator, which is expected to become operational by mid-2026, ahead of the induction of the first aircraft of this type.

Tata Power, Druk Green ink pact for Bhutan power unit

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Tata Power Company Ltd. said it had signed commercial agreements with Druk Green Power Corporation Ltd (DGPC) of Bhutan to implement the 1,125 MW Dorjilung project.

The project will be implemented through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), with DGPC and Tata Power holding equity stakes of 60%-40%, respectively.

The run-of-the-river project, comprising six units of 187.5 MW each, is being developed on the Kurichhu River in Mongar, Bhutan.

The total project cost is ₹13,100 crore. The project is slated for commissioning in September 2031.

Axis Bank to raise up to ₹5,000 cr. via debentures

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Axis Bank Ltd. said it would raise up to ₹5,000 crore by issuing fully paid long-term non-convertible debentures on a private placement basis. This includes base issue of ₹2,000 crore and green shoe option to retain over subscription of ₹3,000 crore.

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DHAKA

A 5.5 magnitude earthquake in central Bangladesh kills at least 8

REUTERS

A 5.5-magnitude earthquake struck central Bangladesh near Ghorashal in Narsingdi district on Friday, killing at least eight persons and injuring over 300 as roofs, walls and railings collapsed. Panicked residents and garment workers rushing out of buildings triggered stampedes that left many hurt. AP

COLOMBO

Sri Lankan Opposition holds rallies against Dissanayake government

AFP

Thousands of Opposition activists took out rallies near Colombo on Friday, demanding the government fulfil tax relief and public safety promises. They accused President Dissanayake's administration of politicising law enforcement and failing on campaign pledges. The government has denied heightened public danger. AP

KINSHASA

Islamist militants kill 89 civilians in DR Congo last week: UN mission

GETTY IMAGES

Women in a maternity ward were among 89 civilians killed in Islamist militant attacks in eastern DR Congo last week, including deadly assaults by the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), the UN mission in the country said on Friday. Attacks included killings, abductions, and property destruction amid ongoing conflict. AFP

NEW YORK

Frida Kahlo painting auctions for $54.6 mn, record for woman artist

AP

A self-portrait by legendary Mexican artist Frida Kahlo sold for $54.66 million at Sotheby's in New York on Thursday, setting a new record for a woman artist's painting at auction. Her 1940 work, titled *El sueno (la cama)*, surpassed Georgia O'Keeffe's previous record, which was sold for $44.4 million in 2014. AFP

'Ukraine's choice is between losing its dignity or the U.S.'

'This is one of the most difficult moments in our history,' says President Zelenskyy; the U.S. peace plan includes Ukrainian territorial concessions, while offering limited security guarantees to Kyiv

Associated Press
KYIV

Strategic alliance: Volodymyr Zelenskyy greets U.S. Secretary of the Army Daniel Driscoll prior to their talks in Kyiv on Thursday. AFP

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said on Friday that Ukraine has to confront the possibility of losing its dignity or risking the loss of a key partner as it figures out how to respond to a U.S. peace proposal to end Russia's war with his country.

"This is one of the most difficult moments in our history," Mr. Zelenskyy said in a video address to the nation. "Currently, the pressure on Ukraine is one of the hardest. Ukraine may now face a very difficult choice, either losing its dignity or the risk of losing a key partner."

Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Friday a U.S. plan could "lay the foundation" for a Ukraine peace deal, confirming for the first time that Moscow had received a copy from the United States. Mr. Putin threatened to seize more territory if Kyiv rejects the proposal, saying that the claimed recent capture of Kupiansk "will inevitably be repeated in other key areas of the front line".

U.S. President Donald Trump indicated that he had set a deadline of November 27 for Ukraine to accept his administration's plan aimed at ending its war with Russia.

"I've had a lot of deadlines, but if things are working well, you tend to extend the deadlines. But Thursday is, we think, an appropriate time," Mr. Trump said.

The U.S. plan contains many of Mr. Putin's longstanding demands, including Ukrainian territorial concessions, while offering limited security guarantees to Ukraine.

Wary of antagonising Mr. Trump, the European and Ukrainian responses were cautiously worded and pointedly commended American peace efforts.

German Chancellor Friedrich Merz, French President Emmanuel Macron and British Prime Minister Keir Starmer assured Mr. Zelenskyy of "their unchanged and full support on the way to a lasting and just peace" in Ukraine, Mr. Merz's office said.

The plan foresees Ukraine handing over territory to Russia, reduces the size of it army and blocks its route to NATO membership.

To deter migration, U.K. government proposes new rules for settlement

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

Days after announcing a shake-up of U.K. asylum law, the country's Home Secretary, Shabana Mahmood, released proposed changes to the routes for settling in the U.K. (also known as 'settlement' , 'Indefinite Leave to Remain' or ILR). Under the proposed changes, high earners and entrepreneurs would qualify in three years, some in five years, while the default would be 10 years, with some individuals having to wait 20 or even 30 years to settle.

Changes to the law, along the proposed lines, will impact tens of thousands of Indians who have been the largest group of non-EU long-term migrants to the U.K. since at least 2019.

The Labour government of Keir Starmer had already announced that it would run a public consultation on a new contributions based system for ILR at the heart of which is a doubling of the default qualifying period from five to 10 years.

Shabana Mahmood

'The biggest shake-up'

The consultation, which began on Thursday is open until February 12. The government called it the "biggest shake-up of the legal migration system in nearly half a century".

High earners who make more than £125,140 and entrepreneurs on the Global Talent and Innovator Founder visas would be eligible to settle in three years under the proposals. Those who earn at least £50,270 per year will be eligible in five years.

All applicants will have to meet minimum salary standards (at least £12,750 per year for 3-5 years subject to the outcome of the consultation). They will also have to have minimum standards of English and have no tax or other government debt.

Those who receive public funds could face up to 20 years for settlement and visa overstayers up to 30 years.

The adult dependents of an economic migrant (a spouse for instance) will no longer qualify based on their partner's earnings as per the proposed rules. They will instead have their own qualifying period and criteria based on their circumstances.

The 616,000 health and social care visa workers and their dependents who came to the U.K. between 2022 and 2024 will now have to wait 15 years for ILR. This visa route was closed earlier this year after the U.K. government said individual workers were being exploited and abused.

The U.K. government intends to apply the new rules retrospectively although it states that transitional arrangements will be finalised following the consultation process.

Judicial review

In 2008 and 2009, when the government changed the qualifying period for settlement for certain highly skilled migrants from four to five years, the U.K. High Court overruled it based on a principle of administrative law called "legitimate expectation".

Parliament is supreme in the U.K. and courts cannot overturn primary legislation but immigration rule changes are often made via a statement of changes rather than Acts of Parliament, making them subject to judicial review.

Israel kills 13 'Hamas militants' in Lebanon

Agence France-Presse
JERUSALEM

Israel's military on Friday said a strike on a Palestinian refugee camp in southern Lebanon earlier this week had killed "13 Hamas militants".

Lebanese authorities said Tuesday's strike on Ain al-Helweh camp killed at least 13 people, without giving their identities.

"Thirteen Hamas terrorists were eliminated in a precise IDF [military] strike targeting the organisation's training compound in southern Lebanon," the Israeli military said in a statement.

Those killed included "Jawad Sidawi, who was involved in training terrorists in order to carry out terror attacks from Lebanese territory" against Israel and its troops, the statement said.

Taiwan issues 'crisis' guide on preparing for Chinese attack; critics condemn move

Agence France-Presse
TAIPEI

Taipei resident Jay Tsai hopes he never needs the crisis guide Taiwan is handing out to millions of households across the island, which faces threats of natural disasters and a Chinese invasion.

The government began sliding the orange booklet under doors and into mailboxes this week to raise awareness about potential dangers, but critics have branded it a waste of taxpayers' money.

"I hope we'll never need it but it feels reassuring to have," said Mr. Tsai, a 31-year-old 3D animation specialist.

The 32-page booklet offers advice on everything from how to prepare a "go bag" to what to do when an air-raid siren sounds and how to give first-aid.

Taiwan's 'crisis' guide being sorted before distribution. AFP

It also warns readers that "hostile foreign forces" could use disinformation to weaken their resolve to defend the island if China attacks. "In the event of a military invasion, any claim that the government has surrendered or that the nation has been defeated is false," it says.

The Defence Ministry said Taiwan had studied similar books recently published by countries such as Sweden and France when putting its guide together.

Iran Foreign Ministry slams IAEA demand

Associated Press
TEHRAN

Iran's Foreign Ministry called a resolution by the UN atomic watchdog's board of governors "anti-Iranian" and threatened unspecified retaliatory actions, state media reported on Friday.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on Thursday demanded that Iran fully cooperate with the agency and provide "precise information" about its stockpile of near weapons-grade uranium, as well as grant its inspectors access to Iranian nuclear sites.

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baghaei was quoted as saying on Friday that Iran informed IAEA that it in addition to ending the agreement, the Iranian government could take "other actions".

Sport

277 players in the fray for 73 slots

WPL AUCTION

Vivek Krishnan
NEW DELHI

A total of 277 cricketers will vie for 73 available slots when the auction for the fourth edition of the Women's Premier League (WPL) takes place at the JW Marriott Hotel here on November 27 (Thursday).

The auction list includes 194 Indians, comprising 52 capped and 142 uncapped players, who will go under the hammer for 50 slots. Among the overseas picks who can fill the 23 remaining slots, there are 66 capped and 17 uncapped players.

In all, 19 players are going in with a base price of ₹50 lakh. Among the six Indians in the highest price category are Deepti Sharma, Harleen Deol, Kranti Gaud, Uma Chetry, Pratika Rawal and Pooja Vastrakar. Besides Pooja, the rest were part of India's ODI World Cup winning-squad earlier this month.

Prize catch: All-rounder Deepti will hope to attract a bidding war for her services. FILE PHOTO: EMMANUAL YOGINI

Deepti won the Player-of-the-Series award at the World Cup, finishing as the highest wicket-taker (22 scalps) with her off-breaks along with 215 runs in the middle-order.

In the final against South Africa, the 28-year-old scored a run-a-ball 58 and claimed five for 39 as India sealed a 52-run victory. Having been released by UP Warriorz, Deepti will hope to attract a bidding war for her services.

The overseas stars starting at the base price of ₹50 lakh include the likes of Alyssa Healy, Sophie Devine, Sophie Ecclestone, Meg Lanning and Phoebe Litchfield.

Left-handed opener Litchfield played just a cameo role for Gujarat Giants in the previous two editions.

But having blazed her way to a sublime century against India in the semifinal of the World Cup, the 22-year-old is likely to be much sought after.

Andhra's left-arm spinner Sree Charani, who is entering the auction at a base price of ₹30 lakh, could also spark considerable interest.

Lakshya bests Ayush, Satwik-Chirag crashes out

Press Trust of India
SYDNEY

Lakshya Sen overcame Ayush Shetty to secure a place in the semifinals but it was curtains for the top-seeded pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty at the Australian Open Super 500 tournament on Friday.

Lakshya, who had beaten his compatriot at the same stage in the Hong Kong Open earlier this year, won 23-21, 21-11 to set up a last-four clash with Taiwan's Chou Tien Chen.

However, Satwik and Chirag were beaten 19-21, 15-21 by Indonesia's Fajar Alfian and Muhammad Shohibul Fikri.

Siege Courageous primed to repeat

RACING

BENGALURU: Siege Courageous, who is in fine fettle, may score an encore in the Bangalore Turf Club Trophy (1,200m), the feature event of the races to be held here on Saturday (Nov 22). False rails (width about 5m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

1 BEGINNERS PLATE (1,100m), maiden 2-y-o only, (Terms), 2-00 p.m.: 1. Audacious Lad (2) Antony 56, 2. Global Dominance (4) Suraj 56, 3. Incredible Luck (1) A.A. Vikrant 56, 4. Monumental (5) Trevor 54.5, 5. Portieux (6) Shreyas S 54.5 and 6. Quantum (3) G. Vivek 54.5.
1. GLOBAL DOMINANCE,
2. AUDACIOUS LAD

2 SHIVANASAMUDRA FALLS PLATE (DIV. II), (1,300m), rated 20 to 45, 2-30: 1. Exceed (1) J. Chinoy 60, 2. Knotty Cruise (9) G. Vivek 56, 3. Husanara (5) Ganesh Shingade 55.5, 4. Amalure (4) Sai Kiran 55, 5. Big Sauce (3) Pavan 54, 6. Blue Storm (6) Arvind K 54, 7. Celestial Flame (11) Abhishek Mhatre 54, 8. Honeypot (7) Angad 54, 9. Sustaining Grace (2) Vinod Shinde 5, 10. Dr. Colchester (8) I. Chisty 50.5 and 11. N R I Millennium (10) Shreyas S 50.5.
1. KNOTTY CRUISE,
2. AMALURE,
3. BLUE STORM

3 PHAR LAP PLATE (1,100m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 3-00: 1. Aphelion (8) Sai Kiran 57, 2. Hallstatt (4) Likith Appu 57, 3. Imperador (1) Suraj 57, 4. Fiery Love (6) Mukesh K 55.5, 5. Jalwa (7) Arvind K 55.5, 6. Kings Victoryqueen (5) Salman Khan 55.5, 7. Saira (3) Rayan 55.5 and 8. Zayana (2) Pavan 55.5.
1. IMPERADOR,
2. FIERY LOVE,
3. JALWA

4 Y.S. SURENDER MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,600m), rated 40 to 65, 3-30: 1. Sicyon (6) Trevor 60.5, 2. Winfield (4) Aleemuddin 59.5, 3. Refreshment (1) Mukesh K 57, 4. Eternal Glory (7) Darshan 56, 5. Live The Dream (9) Abhishek Mhatre 55.5, 6. Storm Shadow (2) G. Vivek 55.5, 7. Sassy (8) Angad 54.5, 8. Alfonsine (3) Suraj 54 and 9. Alamgir (5) Arvind K 53.
1. ALFONSINE,
2. SICYON,
3. WINFIELD

5 BANGALORE TURF CLUB TROPHY (1,200m), 3-y-o & over, (Terms), 4-00: 1. Knotty Charmer (4) G. Vivek 61.5, 2. Siege Courageous (3) Suraj 59.5, 3. Magileto (5) Trevor 58.5, 4. Aldgate (1) Antony 55.5, 5. Czar (6) Mukesh K 55.5, 6. Decacorn (7) Sai Kiran 55.5 and 7. Imperial Blue (2) Arvind K 55.5.
1. SIEGE COURAGEOUS,
2. KNOTTY CHARMER

6 SPARK OF GOLD TROPHY (1,200m), rated 60 to 85, 4-30: 1. Del Aviz (7) Antony 60, 2. Jersey King (8) Mukesh K 59, 3. Regal Reality (6) Trevor 55.5, 4. Bezawada Sultan (2) Sai Kiran 54, 5. Reiko (1) Suraj 54, 6. Auspicious Queen (4) G. Praveen 52.5, 7. Badshaah (3) Shreyas S 51 and 8. Invincible (5) Angad 51.
1. RIEKO,
2. REGAL REALITY,
3. JERSEY KING

7 SHIVANASAMUDRA FALLS PLATE (DIV. I), (1,300m), rated 20 to 45, 5-00: 1. Sassy Sarah (5) Darshan 62, 2. Out Into Spotlight (8) R. Robert 60.5, 3. Xaily (6) Angad 58, 4. Amazing Attraction (3) Asirvatham 57, 5. Bezawada Baasha (7) A.A. Vikrant 56.5, 6. Blind Faith (1) Siddaraju P 56.5, 7. Stalingrad (2) Pavan 55, 8. Vafadar (9) Jagadeesh 54, 9. Contessina (10) Suraj 53.5 and 10. My Solitaire (4) I. Chisty 53.
1. STALINGRAD,
2. CONTESSINA,
3. SASSY SARAH

Day's best: IMPERADOR
Double: ALPFONSINE – STALINGRAD
Jkt: 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7; Tr (i): 2, 3 and 4; (ii): 5, 6 and 7.

BIG SHOES TO FILL

Pant set to become second stumper to lead India in Tests

RITU RAJ KONWAR

Rishabh Pant will become India's 38th Test captain when he walks out for toss in the second Test against South Africa. Pant will also be the second stumper to lead India after M.S. Dhoni. Since Gautam Gambhir took over as coach, he is the fourth player to captain India in Tests after Rohit Sharma, Jasprit Bumrah and Shubman Gill.

EXUDING CONFIDENCE

I think this wicket will play better than Kolkata, feels Pant

RITU RAJ KONWAR

Rishabh Pant said the playing XI for the second Test has already been decided and the stand-in captain is confident the pitch will be good for batting. "We have taken into consideration [the problem of] having a lot of left-handers. The person who's going to play has been told. I think this wicket will play better (than Kolkata)."

OPTIMISTIC

Hopefully, we go back to playing four Tests against India: Bavuma

RITU RAJ KONWAR

South Africa has not played a three-match Test series in nearly three years. Its last such series was in Australia in 2022-23. "We woke up this morning to watch the Ashes and did so with a bit of jealousy, knowing they were going to be five Tests. Hopefully, we go back to playing four Tests against India," said skipper Temba Bavuma.

SWITCHEROO

Guwahati Test to feature new session intervals

RITU RAJ KONWAR

The maiden Test match in Guwahati will feature a new first: a change in session intervals. Considering the 9 a.m. start to account for Guwahati's geography, the 20-minute tea interval will be taken after the first session at 11 a.m., with a 40-minute lunch at 1.20 p.m. after the second session. The last session will be from 2 to 4 p.m.

Advantage South Africa as Pant's men play catch up

Sai Sudharsan likely to replace the injured Gill for the second Test; the hosts could be tempted to bring in Nitish in place of a spinner; Proteas set to miss the services of Rabada again

SA IN INDIA

S. Dipak Ragav
GUWAHATI

New beginnings are usually occasions for grand celebrations and joy. As Guwahati's ACA Stadium gets ready to take its spot on the Test cricket map by hosting the second and final India-South Africa Test starting here on Saturday, it will be a landmark moment, for it will be the first time cricket's oldest format makes its presence in the North-East of the country.

While the journey into the unknown can often be liberating and exciting, India, trailing 0-1 after the crushing loss in Kolkata, will enter the contest with some trepidation. Under a new captain, Rishabh Pant, who is standing in for the injured Shubman Gill, the last thing the home side would want is to add more variables to the equation. And there are quite a few in this match.

In testing times, familiarity can be a great source of comfort, yet India won't have the luxury of having prior knowledge of the conditions. For starters, only pacer Mohammed Siraj from this roster has experience of playing a First Class game at this venue, and it was nine years ago.

Given the early sunrise and sunset times in this part of the country, play will begin at 9 a.m., 30 minutes earlier than usual. The chilly winter-morning conditions and moisture on the pitch could play into the hands of Kagiso Rabada-less Proteas' pace attack, shrinking the gap between the sides.

Lining it up: Jaiswal, who failed to get going at the Eden Gardens, will be hoping to make amends in the Guwahati Test. RITU RAJ KONWAR

Also, it might be challenging to get 90 overs every day because of early sunset, and as the team that needs to win, India wouldn't want any time lost owing to lack of light.

The absence of Gill has meant there will be one or two forced changes to the XI, with B. Sai Sudharsan likely to replace the former.

It will be interesting to see if the Tamil Nadu batter slots in back at one-drop ahead of Washington Sundar, who did the job in the previous match, or slides down to the middle-order.

After all the hullabaloo surrounding the 22-yard strip at the Eden Gardens, the pitch here might be more kind to the batters, offering predictable bounce and thus presenting the chance of a fair contest between bat and ball.

The red-soil surface sported a bit of grass on match-eve and that could tempt India to bring in Nitish Kumar for one of Axar Patel or Kuldeep Yadav. More importantly, it will ensure there is at least a third frontline right-hand batter in a left-hander heavy line-up.

The visiting team, riding high after its first Test win in India in 15 years, has a great chance of pulling off a rare series win. The reigning World Test champion, though, will know that it won't come easy and will need its batters to take a lesson or two from skipper Temba Bavuma's masterful knock in Kolkata.

In a place where dawn breaks early, India will chase sunrise in its bid to ensure that its formidable home record, built assiduously over a decade, doesn't fall for the second time in one year.

The teams (from):

India: Rishabh Pant (Capt. & wk), Yashasvi Jaiswal, K.L. Rahul, B. Sai Sudharsan, Devdutt Padikkal, Dhruv Jurel (wk), Nitish Kumar, Ravindra Jadeja, Washington Sundar, Jasprit Bumrah, Axar Patel, Mohammed Siraj, Akash Deep and Kuldeep Yadav.

South Africa: Temba Bavuma (Capt.), Corbin Bosch, Dewald Brevis, Tony de Zorzi, Zubayr Hamza, Simon Harmer, Marco Jansen, Keshav Maharaj, Aiden Markram, Wiaan Mulder, Senuran Muthusamy, Ryan Rickelton (wk), Tristan Stubbs, Kyle Verreynne (wk) and Lungi Ngidi.

Match starts at 9 a.m.

At the top level, you are going to be put under pressure: Pant

S. Dipak Ragav
GUWAHATI

Rishabh Pant has a special affinity with Guwahati. It is here that he made his One-Day International debut back in 2018, and on Saturday will stride out to lead India for the first time in Tests after regular skipper Shubman Gill was ruled out with a neck injury.

Given his team is trailing in the two-match series, this will be a real test of his leadership skills. Already, Pant has had a taste of the demands of captaincy after questions were raised about his decision-making.

On the third morning of the Kolkata Test, India opted to use spinners rather than pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah, and let the South African lower-order score vital runs, which proved costly.

"There was a lot of discussion that happened as a team, and going with a spinner was that process. That's the challenge as a captain, you are going to be questioned," said Pant. "But eventually you are going to do what you believe is right in that given frame of mind and trust that that person who has the ball will do the job for the team."

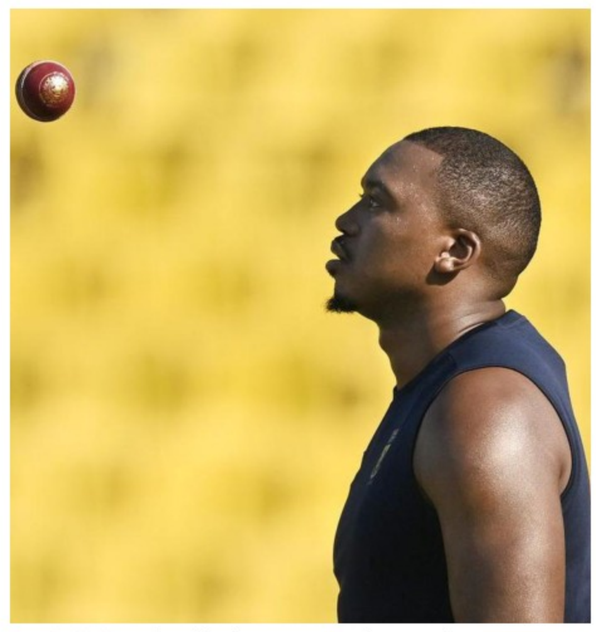
Though the 28-year-old has vast experience in leading sides in the limited-overs formats, he hasn't led a lot in the longer version.

"I feel in red-ball cricket, because it goes over a longer period of time, small tactical changes you can overcome because it gives you time," said Pant on the upcoming challenge. "At the same time, you have to keep your emotions in check and don't let the game drift away from you for too long."

Rahul... at a training session on Friday. RITU RAJ KONWAR

Commenting on this contest and the pressure of trying to avoid a series defeat, the wicketkeeper-batter said: "At the top level, you're going to be put under pressure. At the same time, as a team, we don't want to dwell too much on the result every time we play.

"We need to have a clear mindset that regardless of whether we are up or down in the series, we still have to give our 200%".



On the ball: Ngidi will be keen to step in if required. RITU RAJ KONWAR

Team will look to be ruthless: Bavuma

S. Dipak Ragav
GUWAHATI

South Africa skipper Temba Bavuma promised his team will be ruthless in the second Test here and not play it safe even though a draw will be enough for his side to clinch the series 1-0.

"Ultimately, in every game, you have to play to win. It's not about protecting the lead that we have. We want to play from the front and continue to do so," said Bavuma, who is yet to lose a Test as skipper.

Grabbing every chance

"We will play what is in front of us. We don't want to go in there with that defensive type of mindset.

"Whatever opportunities are there within the game, we will look to be ruthless and take them," said Bavuma. Sharing his thoughts on the pitch, Bavuma felt the strip at the ACA Stadium appeared more like a traditional subcontinent surface and did not expect any unpleasant surprises.

"This wicket looks a lot fresher and will be more consistent in terms of variability (bounce) compared to Kolkata. We will have another look in the morning and decide (the XI)."

"I think it will be more of a traditional subcontinent wicket – good for batting in the first two days, and then from Day 3, the spinners should come into play.

So I think all the fundamentals that come with playing in the subcontinent [would be needed]," he added.

Bangladesh-A stuns India-A, meets Pakistan in the final

Press Trust of India
DOHA

India-A paid a heavy price for its insipidness with bat and ball, succumbing to Bangladesh-A in the Super Over in the semifinals of the Rising Stars Asia Cup here on Friday.

The India-A bowlers faltered as Bangladesh finished with 194 for six in 20 overs. The Jitesh Sharma-led side, too, ended up at the same score, forcing a Super Over. However, India inexplicably decided to send Jitesh, Ramandeep Singh and Ashutosh Sharma when it had Vaibhav Suryavanshi and Priyansh Arya in the dugout.

The move backfired as both Jitesh and Ashutosh were sent back by pacer Ripon Mondol for ducks.

Despite losing Yasir Ali off the first ball, Bangladesh got the required run through a wide bowled by Suyash Sharma.

Game-changer: Mondol dismissed Jitesh and Ashutosh off the first two deliveries of the Super Over. ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL

In the second semifinal, Pakistan Shaheens held its nerve to beat Sri Lanka-A by five runs.

Chasing a target of 154, the islanders slipped to 99 for eight.

Milan Rathnayake (40) made a spirited fightback, but it wasn't enough.

The scores (semifinals):

Bangladesh-A 194/6 in 20 overs (Habibur Sohan 65, S.M. Meherob 48 n.o.) tied with India-A 194/6 in 20 overs (Vaibhav Suryavanshi 38, Priyansh Arya 44, Jitesh Sharma 33, Nehal Wadhera 32 n.o.).

Super Over: India-A 0/2 in 0.2 overs lost to Bangladesh-A 1/1 in 0.1 over.

Pakistan Shaheens 153/9 in 20 overs (Ghazi Ghouri 39 n.o., Pramod Madushan 4/29, Traveen Mathew 3/22) bt Sri Lanka-A 148/9 in 20 overs (Milan Rathnayake 40, Saad Masood 3/18, Sufiyan Muqeem 3/12).

Wei holds firm against Esipenko

CHESS WORLD CUP

P.K. Ajith Kumar
ARPORA (GOA)

As Wei Yi stormed out of the playing hall as darkness began to fall on Resort Rio on Friday, there were a couple of children waiting for his autographs. He stopped, obliged them, and even bent down to pose for a photograph with the boy. The girl, after clicking the photo, said, beaming,
"Congratulations."

One is not sure if she actually saw how the seventh seed from China managed to get half-a-point from Andrey Esipenko in the first game of the semifinals at the World Cup, but she was certainly right to congratulate him.

It was some superb piece of defending, under time pressure, that answered the questions posed by his Russian rival.

The other semifinal, featuring the two young Uzbeks, Nodirbek Yakubboev and Jovakhir Sindarov, was also drawn.

Solid defence: Wei fought back well to secure a draw against Esipenko in the first game. FIDE

Lot to play for

So none of the four players can afford a defeat in the second classical game on Saturday: that will mean losing the semifinal match, though one could still remain in contention for a place in the Candidates (a win in the playoff for the third place would do).

The right moves

Of course, victory in the semifinals is the easier way.

And Esipenko looked the likeliest to take what could have been a crucial lead, and that too with black pieces.

The Russian played French Defence and succeeded in giving some headache to his Chinese rival. But on the 28th move, Wei equalised with a fine bishop move, and continued to find more right ones.

Wei then found the perfect square for his queen on the 31st move, to settle the issue more or less.

A couple of moves later, the two men agreed to split the point.

There wasn't as much drama in the other game, in which Yakubboev and Sindarov signed peace after 30 moves from a Semi-Slav Defence that reached a rook-and-knight ending.

The results (semifinals, game one):

Wei Yi (Chn) drew with Andrey Esipenko (Rus).
Nodirbek Yakubboev (Uzb) drew with Jovakhir Sindarov (Uzb).

SA white-ball squads for India series

Press Trust of India
JOHANNESBURG

Temba Bavuma was on Friday named as South Africa's captain for the three-match ODI series against India, but Kagiso Rabada will return home to recover from a rib injury. Aiden Markram will lead in T20Is.

The squads: ODIs: Temba Bavuma (capt.), Ottineil Baartman, Matthew Breetzke, Dewald Brevis, Nandre Burger, Quinton de Kock, Tony de Zorzi, Rubin Hermann, Marco Jansen, Keshav Maharaj, Aiden Markram, Lungi Ngidi, Ryan Rickelton, and Prenelan Subrayen.

T20Is: Markram (Capt.), Baartman, Corbin Bosch, Brevis, de Kock, de Zorzi, Donovan Ferreira, Reeza Hendricks, Jansen, George Linde, Maharaj, Kwena Maphaka, David Miller, Ngidi, Anrich Nortje, and Tristan Stubbs.

INBRIEF

West Indies recalls veteran pacer Roach for NZ Tests

West Indies named a 15-man squad for next month's three-match Test series against New Zealand, with veteran pacer Kemar Roach recalled in the absence of first-choice pacers Shamar Joseph and Alzarri Joseph.

The squad: Roston Chase (Capt.), Jomel Warrican (Vice-capt.), Alick Athanaze, John Campbell, Tagenarine Chanderpaul, Justin Greaves, Kavem Hodge, Shai Hope, Tevin Imlach, Brandon King, Johann Layne, Anderson Phillip, Kemar Roach, Jayden Seales, Ojay Shields.

Shourya Saini shoots silver in 50m rifle 3P at Deaflympics

Young marksman Shourya Saini clinched the men's 50m rifle 3-positions silver medal at the Deaflympics in Tokyo on Friday. The 22-year-old Indian, who had competed in the ISSF World Championships in Peru last year, aggregated 450.6 in the final on Friday to finish behind Germany's Matthias Erik Hess who shot a world record score of 459.8. India's medal tally in shooting now stands at 13, including four gold and six silver.

India-A enters quarterfinals of World Cup of snooker

Former champion India-A powered into the quarterfinals with an all-win record in the league phase of the World Cup of snooker in Muscat on Friday. Pankaj Advani was in imperious form, powering the team to a lopsided 3-1 win over United Arab Emirates and then crushing Afghanistan 3-0. India-B, meanwhile, bowed out with a consolation 3-0 win over Oman-C.

India names squad for AFC u-17 Asian Cup 2026 Qualifiers

Head coach Bibiano Fernandes on Friday named the 23-member India squad for the 2026 AFC u-17 men's Asian Cup Qualifiers, beginning Saturday at the EKA Arena here.

The squad: Goalkeepers: Manashjyoti Baruah, Maroof Shafi, Rajrup Sarkar; **Defenders:** Abhishek Kumar Mondal, Ankur Rajbagh, Indra Rana Magar, Korou Meitei Konthoujam, Lawmsangzuala, Md Aimaan Bin, Shubham Poonia; **Midfielders:** Dallalmuon Gangte, Denny Singh Wangkhem, Diamond Singh Thokchom, Mukundo Singh Ningthoujam, Nitishkumar Meitei Yengkhom, Thonggoumong Touthang; **Forwards:** Aazim Parveez Najar, Azlaan Shah Kh, Gunleiba Wangkheirakpam, Heeranganba Seram, Jasir Khan, Lesvin Rebelo, Rahan Ahmed.

England on top after a 19-wicket day

Skipper Stokes leads the fightback with a five-wicket haul; Starc claims seven to bowl out the tourist for 172 on a spicy Perth track

THE ASHES

Agence France-Presse
PERTH

Nineteen wickets fell on an opening day of carnage in the first Ashes Test on Friday, with England's fearsome attack led by skipper Ben Stokes bowling it into a position of strength after Australia dismissed the tourist for 172.

A rampaging Mitchell Starc took seven for 58 to put England on the back foot after Stokes won the toss on a fine day at a packed Perth Stadium and chose to bat.

Harry Brook (52), Ollie Pope (46) and Jamie Smith (33) offered the only resistance as England crumbled after lunch. But England's elite fast bowlers, led by an exceptional Stokes with figures of five for 23, fought back to reduce the host to 123 for nine at stumps, trailing by 49.

Nathan Lyon was on three with Brendan Doggett yet to score.

In a brutal introduction to Test cricket, opener Jake Weatherald went for a second-ball duck, left on the floor by a Jofra Archer bullet and given out leg-before wicket.

Marnus Labuschagne fended off 41 balls for nine before he too succumbed to the sheer speed of Archer, under-edging one off a fuller delivery.

And when Smith fell for 17 to Carse in the next over, caught by Brook at slip, it was game on.

Usman Khawaja, who was feeling stiff so did not open, came in at No. 4, but lasted just six balls, blown away by a Carse bouncer that took a nick to wicket-keeper Jamie Smith, leaving Australia reeling at 31 for four.

Travis Head (21), Cameron Green (24) and Alex Carey (26) all got starts, but in a reflection of the depth of England's pace stocks, Stokes removed them when he brought himself on.

Making the ball talk: Stokes and Starc proved too hot for the batters. AP & REUTERS

SCOREBOARD

England — 1st innings: Zak Crawley c Khawaja b Starc 0, Ben Duckett lbw b Starc 21, Ollie Pope lbw b Green 46, Joe Root c Labuschagne b Starc 0, Harry Brook c Carey b Doggett 52, Ben Stokes b Starc 6, Jamie Smith c Green b Starc 33, Gus Atkinson c Smith b Starc 1, Brydon Carse c Labuschagne b Doggett 6, Jofra Archer (not out) 0, Mark Wood c Carey b Starc 0; Extras (lb-5, nb-2): 7; Total (in 32.5 overs): 172.

Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-33, 3-39, 4-94, 5-115, 6-160, 7-161, 8-168, 9-172.

Australia bowling: Starc 12.5-4-58-7, Boland 10-0-62-0, Doggett 7-1-27-2, Lyon 2-0-10-0, Green 1-0-10-1.

Australia — 1st innings: Jake Weatherald lbw b Archer 0, Marnus Labuschagne b Archer 9, Steve Smith c Brook b Carse 17, Usman Khawaja c Smith b Carse 2, Travis Head c Carse b Stokes 21, Cameron Green c Smith b Stokes 24, Alex Carey c Carse b Stokes 26, Mitchell Starc c Carse b Stokes 12, Nathan Lyon (batting) 3, Scott Boland c Brook b Stokes 0, Brendan Doggett (batting) 0; Extras (lb-7, nb-2): 9; Total (for nine wkts. in 39 overs): 123.

Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-28, 3-30, 4-31, 5-76, 6-83, 7-118, 8-121, 9-121.

England bowling: Archer 9-4-11-2, Atkinson 9-4-19-0, Wood 5-0-18-0, Carse 10-1-45-2, Stokes 6-1-23-5.

Toss: England.

Shanth Kumar promises a revamp in stadium experience if elected

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

K.N. Shanth Kumar, who is contesting for the post of Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) president, stated that fans who flock to the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium deserve a better experience.

"If elected, we want to make it a safe and better experience for fans who come to watch matches at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium. We will work hard to give them a high level of satisfaction," Shanth, the pirector of The Printers (Mysore) Pvt. Limited, said in a press conference here on Friday.

Shanth Kumar is part of 'Team Brijesh', backed by former India cricketer and administrator Brijesh Patel. Shanth will compete against former India cricketer Venkatesh Prasad for the president's post.

Brijesh said that plans are afoot to ensure that the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium meets all safety regulations.

The iconic stadium has not hosted an international match since the deadly stampede during RCB's 2025 IPL victory celebrations.

"The stampede was tragic. The government has suggested we make changes in the entry and exit areas. Our designs for the same are ready. I am sure that the government will give us permission to host matches once the work is done," Brijesh said.

Former Bangalore Turf Club chairman Vinod Sivappa (for vice president), former KSCA treasurer E.S. Jairam (for secretary), KSCA Managing Committee member M.S. Vinay (for treasurer) and former KSCA assistant secretary B.K. Ravi (for joint secretary) will stand for elections as part of 'Team Brijesh'.

In a related development, the KSCA elections are set to be held on December 7.

This came as a result of the Karnataka High Court quashing a notice issued by the KSCA Electoral Officer postponing the elections.

Holding forth: Brijesh and Shanth Kumar put across their views on Friday. K. MURALI KUMAR

KARNATAKA ROUND-UP

Niki at the helm

Niki Prasad will lead Karnataka in the BCCI U-23 women's T20 Trophy to be held in Haryana from Nov. 24.

The squad: Niki Prasad (capt.), Mithila Vinod, Krishika Reddy, B.G. Tejashwini, Roshini Kiran, P. Saloni, Soumya Verma, Liyanka Shetty, Namitha D'Souza, Rachitha Hatwar, M. Pooja Kumari, Deeksha J. Honushree, Srinithi P. Rai, P. Rohitha Chowdry, G.R. Prerana and Ananya Hegde.

Gujarat posts win

Gujarat beat Karnataka 2-0 on Friday in the Dr. Talimeren Ao Junior Girls National Football Championshipin Anantapur. Shilpaben Thakor (7th minute) and Rinkal Vaja (60th) were the scorers.

Narrow win for Bengaluru Blues HC-B

BENGALURU: Bengaluru Blues HC-B edged out Friends HC, Kalburgi 4-3 in the KSHA C-division hockey league championship on Friday.

Easy for South United

South United FC blanked Bangalore Dream United FC 4-0 in the KSFA Super Division League football here on Friday.

The results: Roots FC 2 (Niranj Rajeev 43, Sagar Shekhar Power 90) bt United Stars FC 1 (R. Vinay 65); Parikrma FC 1 (Haominthang Kipgen 15) bt HAL FC 0; South United FC 4 (Mohammed Kaif 9, V. Rinshid 45+2, Prajwal V. Gowda 57, Makakmayum Daniyal 79) bt Bangalore Dream United FC 0.

LIVE TELECAST

NZ vs WI: 3rd ODI, Sony Sports Ten 1 & LIV, 6.30 a.m.

The Ashes: 1st Test, day 2, Star Sports 1 & JioHotstar, 7.50 a.m.

India vs South Africa: 2nd Test, day 1, Star Sports 2 & JioHotstar, 9.30 a.m.

Formula One: Las Vegas GP (Qualifying), F1 TV, FanCode, 9.30 a.m.

Chess WC: FIDE YouTube, 3 p.m.

Premier League: SS Select 1 & JioHotstar, 6, 8.30 & 11 p.m.

LaLiga: FanCode, 6.30, 8.45, 11 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Sunday)

Serie A: DAZN, 7.30 & 10.30 p.m.

Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 & LIV, 8 & 11 p.m.

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Zapper C1-U & C1 tyres are available at MRF TireTok Outlets MRF TIRETOK MRF T&S Outlets MRF FRANCHISEE MRF Exclusive Outlets MRF Exclusive Multi-Brand Dealerships MRF
IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON MRF DEALERSHIP: HOW TO IDENTIFY FALSE AGENCIES PRETENDING TO BE MRF RECRUITMENT AGENCIES FOR TYRE DEALERSHIP? Any person or institution asking for any kind of payment for an MRF Tyre Dealership is totally false. MRF never asks for any payment for Tyre Dealership. For Dealership Requests, please email to "write2us@mrftyres.com" or scan the QR Code. Approximate investment required for this prestigious and profitable business – Rs. 45 to 50 lakhs (expenditure to be incurred only after the candidate visits our District Office and is interviewed by our District Manager). The expenditure required is mainly for getting the shop ready for business and for stocking tyres which will happen only 2 or 3 days before inauguration.